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Hafa Adai!

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75¢

Change eyed for succession law

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A Senate bid to give the CNMI governor the authority to appoint a mayor under certain circumstances has been introduced and filed with the Senate clerk last Nov. 13, 2017.

Sen. Francisco Borja's (R-Tinian) Senate Bill 20-79 seeks to allow the CNMI governor to appoint a mayor to any of the islands or group of islands if a vacancy arises for the mayor's seat with less than half of his or her term remaining.

Though no action has been

See CHANGE on Page 4

Man injured in As Lito stabbing

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A 30-year-old man was injured when a man he gave a ride to in Chalan Laulau later attacked him with a sharp object or a knife in As Lito last Monday night.

The victim, a Chinese national, was brought by the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services ambulance to the Commonwealth Healthcare Center for treatment.

Acting Department of Public Safety spokesman Lt. Jason Tarkong said the suspect was described as local male, with long hair and wearing a black hat.

Tarkong said the actual

See MAN on Page 4

Rita Sablan and husband Jack Cepeda stand outside their home yesterday. According to Sablan, she has been seeking help from multiple government agencies for many years but has not been assisted. Sablan wants to share her story in hopes of shedding light on her situation, and hopefully to get the help she has long been asking for.
KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

Woman with disability pleads for help

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rita Sablan, 42, lost both her legs years ago. Her husband, Jack Cepeda, left his job to take care of her. They live in a tin shack in Koblerville, a place so rundown it has no walls, no electricity, and no running water.

To get anywhere, Sablan uses a rickety wheelchair that Cepeda pushes around. The fact that the way to their house is unpaved only makes it doubly harder for the two.

Sablan claims she has been asking for assistance from dif-

See WOMAN on Page 4

MINA film wins 2 awards at filmfest

The Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance received word this week that *My Haggan Dream* has won two awards at the MY HERO Festival, an international festival highlighting stories of unsung heroes throughout the world.

In a statement yesterday, MINA said the film won for Best of Fest and the People's

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The Marianas Visitors Authority launches a billboard campaign in Vladivostok.
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LOCAL
The Marianas Visitors Authority participates in the 2017 Mode Tour Travel Mart.
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LIFE & STYLE
Prince Harry and Meghan Markle are finally engaged.
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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Local

Camacho's discrimination suit vs DPS dismissed

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The discrimination lawsuit filed by police major Lawrence M. Camacho against the Department of Public Safety was dismissed Monday with prejudice, which means Camacho can no longer re-file the case. The case was closed.

COMMITTEE MEETING
The House Committee on Federal and Foreign Affairs discussed several issues regarding immigration and public lands in the CNMI during their committee meeting yesterday at the House speaker's conference room on Capital Hill. ERWIN ENCINARES

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho dismissed the case at the parties' request.

Attorney Robert T. Torres, representing Maj. Camacho, and assistant attorney general Thomas J. Schweiger, counsel for DPS, told the court that the production of discovery by DPS has provided the information in response to the major's grievance.

Discovery refers to a pretrial procedure in a lawsuit in which a party can obtain evidence from the other party or parties by means of a request.

The bench trial for the case, set for Dec. 11, 2017, was also dismissed.

Last July, Schweiger stated in court documents that Lawrence Camacho has not incurred any damages because he was promoted to a police major shortly after DPS denied him the director of police position.

Schweiger said that Camacho was promoted to the next highest position (major) at DPS with the same increase of salary that he would have received had been named police director.

In July 2015, then-DPS commissioner James Deleon Guerrero informed Lawrence Camacho that Pete Leon Guerrero was selected police director. Leon Guerrero is now the special assistant for the CNMI Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

In his lawsuit, Lawrence Camacho, through Torres, said he was the only one who applied for the position when the Civil Service Commission announced it open between Dec. 10 and 24, 2014.

Torres said the examination for the position was announced a second time and a third time by CSC after Lawrence Camacho and no one else applied during the first and second announcement.

Lawrence Camacho, a 26-year veteran of the CNMI's police force, filed a petition for judicial review of agency action and injunction against DPS and Civil Service Commission for allegedly not selecting him to the position police despite being the only one qualified.

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FOR UNLICENSED MONEY TRANSMITTING BUSINESS

Woman gets 366 days in prison

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The federal court handed down a one-year-and-one-day sentence against a woman who used a jewelry store inside the defunct Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino as a front for an unlicensed money transmitting business from 2014 and 2015.

Hong Mei Xu was given credit for one day of time served. Upon completing her sentence, she will be placed on two years of supervised release.

She will be required to perform 50 hours of community service and pay a $100 special assessment fee.

Among the conditions of her supervised release is that Xu shall report to an immigration official to determine if deportation is appropriate.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona noted that Xu has been in the CNMI for 20 years now and has a 14-year-old U.S. citizen daughter.

The judge noted that although Xu has no prior criminal conviction, she has a lot of traffic cases for traffic violations that started in 2000 and continued in 2016. A Superior Court bench warrant was issued against Xu for a traffic case.

There is a criminal matter in 2001 and another criminal case filed in Superior Court seven years ago, but the matter did not result in convictions or sentence, Manglona said

The judge said that Xu, a Chinese national, could have the possibility of staying with her U.S. citizen daughter in the CNMI or U.S. in the future, but she jeopardized all of that with her conduct.

Manglona said that Xu came to the CNMI as guest worker—a privilege and not a right.

"You have violated this country's law," Manglona told Xu. "It is unfortunate that you have to pay the price for committing a crime.

Assistant U.S. attorney James Benedetto had recommended a 12-month prison term.

Colin Thompson is counsel for Xu.

Xu was arrested by federal agents on Saipan on Aug. 12, 2016. She pleaded guilty on Dec. 9, 2016.

According to a statement from the U.S. Attorney's Office, Xu managed an unlicensed money transmitting business at the TDHC under the pretense of being a jewelry store. Customers would enter the store and purportedly buy jewelry with their UnionPay International credit card. In reality, the customers would not receive any merchandise, only a receipt, which they would redeem for cash, minus Xu's 5-percent commission. Customers then used the cash to gamble at the Dynasty casino. The purchase transactions were transmitted to UnionPay International Bank, allowing the customers to avoid China's strict capital flight restrictions.

Xu's name and contact information was prominently displayed on a placard at the entrance of the jewelry store. The sign advised potential clients to contact her if they wanted to exchange or transmit money.

During the federal investigation, agents searched the store to obtain financial transaction records. Agents discovered merchant card transaction slips totaling $501,800.11 for the period of Nov. 22, 2014, through Aug. 3, 2015.

Xu performed at least 50 of these illegal money transmissions in which a customer was charged a commission fee.

Xu later disclosed to agents that the business was not licensed as a money transmitting business and that she would run customers' credit cards in exchange for U.S. currency.

Acting U.S. attorney Anderson said: "Federal law requires certain money services businesses to register with the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network. Registration enables the government to monitor and enforce compliance with financial regulations. These regulations are important to deterring money laundering and terrorist financing, within our homeland and abroad. Our office will continue to pursue criminal prosecutions and civil monetary penalties against those who fail to register as MSBs and choose to operate in the shadows of our financial system."

Additional guidance can be found at www.fincen.gov.

Special agents from the Internal Revenue Service conducted the investigation. Benedetto was assisted in the case by assistant U.S. attorney Russell Lorfing.

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PM arrivals can now use APC machines

By BEA CABRERA
bea_cabrera@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Automated Passport Control machines at the arrival area of the Francisco C. Ada/ Saipan International Airport are now in use even for afternoon flights, according to Barrie Toves, who chairs the Commonwealth Ports Authority board's Airport Facilities Committee.

"The use of the APC machines are now expanded in the afternoon to accommodate passengers that arrive in that [time slot]," he said. The machines used to be available only for flight coming in after midnight.

"We talked with the Marianas Visitors Authority to put an ambassador in the afternoon so that machines can be utilized both in morning and afternoon flights," Toves added. The ambassadors are MVA employees who assist tourists in using the machines.

APCs allow incoming tourists to skip the long lines at the immigration counter and just process themselves in.

In an earlier interview, Toves contradicted reports that the machines do not function. He said all seven APC machines are operational.

According to Toves, U.S. Customs and Border Protection do not allow the use of the APC machines in the afternoon when there are no ambassadors available to assist APC users.

"What happens is when the passenger needs assistance at the APC kiosk and there is no ambassador, [U.S. Customs and Border Protection for NMI director Robert] Havens is forced to pull out one of his men from duty to help the passenger when there are a good number of customs officers in the booths that are available," he said.

Previously, the airport's three airport ambassadors were available only from 1am to 5am, with no one in the afternoon.

MVA introduced and fielded Saipan airport ambassadors in August to assist passengers through immigration processing and customs inspections.

Recently, a *Saipan Tribune* source on an afternoon flight experienced using the APC machine, with passengers assisted by two ambassadors and supervised by one CBP officer. According to the source, the process was smooth and it took less than two minutes to go through immigration using the APC machines.

The APC machines can process passengers who are U.S, citizens, green card holders (with permanent resident visa), and B1-B2 (tourist/ business) visa holders with the assistance of available airport ambassadors.

Passengers under different visa categories go directly to the booth of an immigration officer.

Toves said that due to the number of flights everyday, the machines help alleviate and hasten the process of passengers' entry into the CNMI.

Military training ongoing on Saipan

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A Guam-based naval group will be on island for five days to conduct military training and other military exercises.

According to Joint Region Marianas spokesman Brad Ruszala, the public should not panic if helicopters are seen flying in the northern part of the Commonwealth.

Ruszala said yesterday the Guam naval group arrived on Saipan and started their training on Nov. 27, and will continue to do so until Dec. 1. The training includes mock extractions, search and rescue, and more.

Homeland Security and Emergency Management organized the training in conjunction with the Explosive Ordinance Disposal Mobile Unit 5.

The training areas are the Kan Pacific Baseball Field, La Fiesta, Kagman Detention Center, the Telesource building at the Saipan International Airport, and the radar station in Marpi.

Ruszala said the exercises are not only taking place on Saipan. Other trainings are being done in Guam and in other Northern Marianas regions as well, depending on the drills that the military plan to conduct.

Probable cause found vs man who allegedly attacked group of men

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Probable cause was found to proceed with the filing of charges against Scott Patrick Owen, a man who, while allegedly drunk, attacked with a machete a group of Chinese men playing mahjong in San Antonio.

At the preliminary hearing on Monday, probable cause was found to charge Owen with assault with a dangerous weapon and disturbing the peace. The 41-year-old Owen was directed to answer the charges. Arraignment will be on Dec. 4 at 9am.

At the hearing, assistant attorney general Teri Tenorio called police detective Wally San Nicolas Emul Jr., to the witness stand. Chief Public Defender Douglas Hartig served as counsel for Owen.

Police received a call about an assault with a dangerous weapon incident at the Sablan barracks compound last Nov. 18 at 1:36pm. One of the men sustained a laceration to the left forearm in the attack.

The alleged victim told police that he was sitting with a Chinese man playing mahjong when Owen came and sat by the table, drinking a bottle of vodka. The victim said the problem started when he and his companions were speaking in Chinese. Owen stood up and yelled profanities at them. He then got a machete from his room and attacked them with it.

The court has imposed a $25,000 cash bail on Owen.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho presided over Monday's hearing.

WOMAN

From Page 1

ferent government agencies and organizations for over six years, but her pleas fell on deaf ears.

In meeting with Sablan yesterday, *Saipan Tribune* was able to take a tour of their home in Koblerville. The roof had flown off, debris left from Typhoon Soudelor in 2015 still litter the premises, and the structure is not fit for human habitation.

According to Sablan, she lost her first leg to an accident back in 2015. Shortly after, Sablan faced another tragedy, this time due to her poorly built home, which claimed her other leg.

Sablan said that even before her first accident, she had already been reaching out to the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. for nearly three years in hopes that they would help her find a suitable living place. Unfortunately, they had not received the help they needed.

"Every time I called, it was like they were annoyed with me," she said.

After being released from the hospital, Sablan said she tried to get back in touch with NMHC, but to her dismay, her slot had been given to someone else when she didn't get back to them. According to Sablan, NMHC told her that a letter had been mailed to her mailbox in June 2015.

"I was in the hospital for a long while that time. I was not able to renew my box…they asked for evidence so I gave it. Until now, they have not gotten back to me," she said.

Sablan said she feels hurt and helpless because she knows of people who have been provided homes who are in better condition than she is.

"I just want to let them know, how come they can help people with two feet? I'm disabled and I have been asking for help. What about me?" she asked.

Sablan said she has also reached out to Karidat Social Services, to the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc., and the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter, but no one had stepped in to give her the help she has long been asking for.

Yesterday, after meeting with an emotional Sablan, *Saipan Tribune* was able to speak with Sablan's uncle, Ben Basa, who was not aware of his niece's situation until yesterday.

"I read in the papers about how good the economy is right now. How come they can't help her?" asked Basa.

Sablan said her family has been helpful but she doesn't want to be a burden to them.

As of today, Sablan and her husband were taken in by Basa but are still awaiting help from the government.

CHANGE

From Page 1

taken on S.B. 20-79 yet, it was not immediately clear why Borja wants to change the succession laws for mayors. Right now, when a mayoral post becomes vacant, the candidate who got the second highest vote at the last mayoral election would get the post.

Saipan Tribune attempted last night to reach out to Borja several times but calls to his number were not answered.

The bill is allegedly in response to unconfirmed reports that Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas has plans to resign from his position as Tinian mayor come January 2018.

In an email to *Saipan Tribune* yesterday, San Nicolas denied his rumored resignation, but said he supports "a move by the Legislature to amend the law regarding mayor vacancies."

At present, the law provides that if a vacancy were to arise in any office of the mayor with less than half the term remaining, the governor would fill the vacancy by appointing the candidate of the previous election who garnered the second highest number of votes—provided that the candidate still wishes to serve as mayor of that island or group of islands.

Hypothetically, in the case of Tinian, next in line for Tinian mayor is Ramon Dela Cruz, who lost to San Nicolas during the 2014 elections by a margin of seven votes during the first count of the Commonwealth Election Commission, 703-696. The recount resulted in an additional two votes for San Nicolas, 705-696.

The current law only allows the governor to appoint a person qualified to serve as mayor if the there are no candidates who wish to serve as mayor.

If enacted into law, S.B. 20-79 would give the governor the authority to appoint a qualified person as mayor of an island or islands, with the consent of the Senate.

The governor is given the authority to appoint qualified people in the selection of Cabinet members, board members, and other department and agency heads. The Senate then confirms the appointee to the position and is soon followed by an oath-taking before the appointee formally fills the position.

MAN

From Page 1

stabbing happened in the parking lot of Hollywood Video in As Lito.

Tarkong said police learned that the victim picked up the suspect in front of the Saipan Mayor's Office on Beach Road, Chalan Laulau. The suspect told the victim to drop him off in San Antonio. On their way, the suspect redirected the victim to instead drop him off at Hollywood Video in As Lito.

As the victim was parking the car in front of Hollywood Video, the suspect attacked him with a sharp object, possibly a knife. The victim fought off the suspect, who got off the car and ran behind the Hollywood Video building.

The victim managed to drive his car to the Green Consume Market in As Lito, where police were then called.

Tarkong said DPS and the Crime Stoppers Program need the public's help for information about the suspect.

As of press time last night, Tarkong had yet to reply to *Saipan Tribune*'s inquiry if the victim is a taxi driver.

MINA

From Page 1

Choice award.

The film, available for free to children and educators, tells the story of a young girl named Kaya, whose mysterious dream about a *haggan*, or sea turtle, leads her on a delightful quest to find sea turtles around her home island of Saipan.

Co-produced by Sisbro Studios and Open Boat Films, the film has been screened in 32 international film festivals, and has won a total of 10 awards.

The film won the Youth Engagement Award at the Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival, known as the equivalent of the Oscars in the natural history filmmaking industry. The competition this year was fiercer than ever, with over 600 films competing for the top prizes.

The film also won the STEM Award at the 34th annual Chicago International Film Festival, Best Children's Program at the BLUE Ocean Film Festival, and the Best Short Film at the International Ocean Film Festival.

MINA is proud to have been a partner in the production of this film, along with the CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources Sea Turtle Program, the CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife, and the NOAA Fisheries Pacific Islands Regional Office. Additionally, MINA is grateful to all of those who had an opportunity to vote for this film in the People's Choice MY HERO Festival.

The film is being distributed to schools throughout the CNMI and Micronesia for use in the classrooms as part of MINA's outreach and education efforts conserving and protecting the islands' precious natural resources.

You can find *My Haggan Dream* online on MINA's Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/MINAPACIFIC.

For more information about MINA's programs and how you can get involved, call 233-REEF (7333) or email minaoutreach@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

CUC ADVISORIES

Power interruption on Nov. 30

There will be a scheduled power interruption on Thursday, Nov. 30, 2017, from 9:30am to 10:30am to allow line crew of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to safely replace deteriorated power pole hardware in Puerto Rico, near the Army Reserve.

This is part of an ongoing systems improvement project to strengthen and harden the integrity of the power distribution system throughout Saipan.

Areas to be affected include Puerto Rico Industrial Dr., Petroleum Ln., Commercial Port Av., Harbor Ln. (Smiling Cove Marina, U.S. Army Reserve, Seaport, Shell Marianas, Mobil Oil Marianas, and Saipan Stevedore)

The S-3 wastewater lift station will be affected but no water wells.

Because of the scale of work that will be performed, CUC asks travelers to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the affected areas. CUC appreciates the understanding of the community during this period.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor the CUC Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.com/Commonwealth Utilities-Corporationl). ***(PR)***

Power interruption on Dec. 2

There will be a scheduled power interruption on Saturday, Dec. 2, 2017, from 5:30am to 10:30am to allow line crew of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to safely replace three wooden power poles with concrete poles along Chalan Tun Thomas P. Sablan in San Antonio.

Areas to be affected include Kiya 2 (2nd partial), which covers San Antonio Chalan Tun Thomas P. Sablan (Batto Pl., Bunita Pl., Aluda Pl., and Asuli Pl.). No water well will be affected. Sewer lift stations that will be affected are: A-1, A-2, & A-16.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor the CUC Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.com/Commonwealth Utilities-Corporationl). ***(CUC)***

Water service outage in Dandan

There will be a scheduled water service interruption in Dandan from Nov. 29 through Nov. 30, 2017, from 1pm to 5pm. The Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s contractor, AIC Marianas Inc., will be replacing a 6-inch water gate valve. For the safety of our men and women working at the site, motorists are advised to proceed with caution and take alternative routes when traveling by the area.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor the CUC Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.com/Commonwealth Utilities-Corporationl). ***(CUC)***

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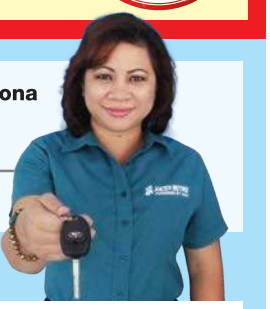

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Innovation summit on Dec. 5

The Commonwealth Development Authority and the CNMI Department of Commerce are hosting an Innovation Summit on Dec. 5 at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan's Hibiscus Hall, from 9am to 2pm, featuring John McElligott and David Rixter. This summit is workforce development related, augmented with new technology that is now developing rapidly. It is free.

There will also be a small gathering on Dec. 4, 2017, at the American Memorial Park Indoor Theatre from 5pm to 8pm, during which McElligott will be making a presentation to potential stakeholders as well as to any other interested individuals.

Members of the community, both public and private, are encouraged to participate. ***(PR)***

SCC meeting on Dec. 6

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will have a general membership meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 6, at Saipan World Resort. Marian Aldan-Pierce, co-chair of the Strategic Economic Development Council, and board member of the Northern Marianas Business Alliance Corp., will speak about the CW issue. Nicole Babauta, director of the Small Business Development Council, will speak about entrepreneurship and the services that the organization can provide.

Students will be joining the meeting with the member businesses that are hosting them for this year's Career Exploration Day. Contact Chamber executive director Jill M. Arenovski at 234-7150 or fax 234-7151 to reserve your seat. ***(PR)***

Birthday reception for Japan emperor

Japan Consul Kinji Shinoda will host a reception in honor of the birthday of the Emperor of Japan at the Fiesta Hall of the Grandvrio Resort on Tuesday, Dec. 5, from 6pm to 7:30pm. Around 150 invited guests from the CNMI government, Legislature, mayors' offices, business circles, the Japanese community and others are expected to join the reception. Emperor Akihito will become 84 years old on Dec. 23, and his birthday is celebrated as a national holiday in Japan. Akihito and Empress Michiko visited Saipan on June 27 and 28, 2005.

Learn how to manage stress at SHRM meeting

The CNMI Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management will feature two stress management experts—Wilma Villanueva and Christopher Cabrera of the Community Guidance Center's Wellness Center—at its Nov. 30 membership meeting at the Pacific Islands Club's Charley's Cabaret, from 11:30am to 1:30pm. The presentation includes the PIC lunch buffet at the cost of $20 for SHRM members and $30 for non-members. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Penny Jones by email at penelope.jones@hyatt.com or Denise Montenegro at denise.montenegro@hyatt.com or by telephone at 323-5867/68. ***(PR)***

MIFICPA to host Excel workshop

The Marianas Institute of Filipino CPAs and Accountants, is inviting all members to this year's workshop on advanced Microsoft Excel. The workshop will be on Dec. 2, 2017, a Saturday, from 8:30am to 12pm, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. Registration starts at 8am.

There will be a $5 fee to cover incidentals. Non-members are welcome for a $15 seminar fee. Seats are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Most importantly, please bring your own laptop.

For reservation and more details, check the MIFICPA Facebook page or call or email any of the officers: Angie Mamaril at 783-1857 (angiehmamaril@yahoo.com); Lois Manese at 286-8663 (eloisa_manese@yahoo.com); Cris Bucalig at 287-0945 (cris_bong@yahoo.com) or Gloria Balila at 989-6284 (mgmbalila@yahoo.com). ***(PR)***

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Results will be published on Saipan Tribune every Monday

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LOTTERY

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NMPASI
NORTHERN MARIANAS PROTECTION & ADVOCACY SYSTEMS, INC.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NMPASI) is soliciting proposals for the financial and compliance audit for fiscal year ending **September 30, 2017**. NMPASI is designated, federally funded protection and advocacy system for persons with disabilities in the CNMI. NMPASI uses a variety of individual and systems advocacy approaches to protect people's rights, including legal and administrative remedies, legislative, policy change and trainings. Proposals for the financial and compliance audit shall be submitted to NMPASI, P.O. Box 503529, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than December 04, 2017. The audit shall be performed in compliance with the following guidelines:

1. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards;
2. OMB Circular A-133; and
3. Compliance with the general Requirements Applicable to Federal Financial Assistance Program.

Award will be based on specific factor such as prior experience, technical competence, ability to meet the deadline and price in this order. The contract for this audit will be awarded no later than **December 11, 2017**, and a final audit report shall be completed by March 16, 2018. A list of specific audit requirements and Agency's profile are available at NMPASI office, Gualo Rai. Any questions regarding this matter can be addressed to Mr. James Rayphand, Executive Director at tel 235-7273

COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 500237, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 1 (670) 233-1857
Fax: 1 (670) 233-1856
Email: info@cnmicasinocommission.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening Date: **November 22, 2017** Closing Date: **December 22, 2017**

The Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission") needs immediate recruitment for the following positions:

	POSITION	DIVISION	SALARY RANGE	ANNOUNCEMENT NO.
1.	**FINANCIAL AUDITOR**	Audit	$37,000 - $42,000	CCC-2017-**A**
2.	**COMPLIANCE AGENT**	Compliance	$32,000 - $37,000	CCC-2017-**B**
3.	**DEPUTY MANAGER**	Enforcement & Investigations	$44,000 - $49,000	CCC-2017-**C**
4.	**INVESTIGATIVE ANALYST**	Enforcement & Investigations	$30,000 - $35,000	CCC-2017-**D**
5.	**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER** – Procurement	Executive Office	$30,000 - $35,000	CCC-2017-**E**

- **Salary:** Actual salary level will depend on the applicant's education, experience, and other related qualifications.
- **Location:** Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("CNMI").
- **Benefits:** Basic CNMI government employment fringe benefits.
- **Exempted Positions:** These positions are exempted from the CNMI Civil Service system per P.L. 18-56 & P.L.19-24.

Requirements:

A. Completed CNMI Government **Application for Employment** (OPM-03) - Original
B. Resume with accompanying educational and professional credentials & documentations
C. Police Clearance (within the last 3 months)
D. Copy of your Driver's License or other form of **Valid Identification with photo**

Education and training claimed under items 24 (A) through (H) of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Office of Personnel Management **Application for Employment** must be substantiated by an official school transcript, diploma, or certificate. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification.

The Commonwealth Casino Commission is an equal employment opportunity employer. The CCC's EEO policy is to ensure that all employment decisions are made on a non-discriminatory basis, and without regard to sex, race, color, age, national origin, religion, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, political affiliation or belief, or any other status protected by applicable national, federal, state or local law. Please be informed that prior to a job offer, you are required to undergo a pre-employment drug test pursuant to the Alcohol and Drug Free Workplace Policy, Part V.C. of the Personnel Service System Rules and Regulations. The Casino Commission may also require additional criminal background checks and investigations if deemed necessary.

Application Forms can be picked up at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). For information on the **POSITION DESCRIPTION** and other requirements, please contact the HR Officer, Ms. Juanette LG. Sablan at 233-1857/58 or at **info@cnmicasinocommission.com.** Interested persons should submit their completed Employment Application Forms along with supporting documents to the **Commonwealth Casino Commission's Office at Springs Plaza (Unit #13 & #14), Gualo Rai, Saipan, MP 96950.**

Russia billboards tout the Marianas

The average temperature in Vladivostok, Russia, this week is about 30ºF during the day, dipping to as low as 14ºF at night.

And it's only expected to get colder as winter deepens.

What better time to remind the travelling Russian public that the average temperature in the Marianas is about 83ºF during the day, dipping a mere 4ºF lower at night?

To increase the recognizability of the Marianas in the Vladivostok area, the Marianas Visitors Authority launched a billboard campaign this month highlighting the award-winning, white sandy beach of Managaha, framed by an ocean of myriad blues sparkling in the tropical sun. The five billboards are installed in Vladivostok's downtown and other places with the highest traffic, averaging at least 40,000 people in daily traffic at each site. The outdoor ad campaign will continue through Dec. 30, 2017, and bring an estimated $112,000 ad exposure to the Marianas.

"Russia's cold!" said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion, recently returned from the Marianas Event 2017 in Vladivostok. "With new, convenient connections to the Marianas from Vladivostok via Seoul on Jeju Air, the timing is optimal to entice visitors from Russia far east. Billboards often have a captive audience during rush hour…in this case, a very cold captive audience. We want to let them know they are 'warmly' welcomed to the islands."

The billboard campaign is also augmented by a radio advertising campaign, featuring 15-second ads on the two most popular radio stations of Russia far east: Europa Plus and Dacha Radio, which reach about 179,000 people daily. ***(MVA)***

Billboards in Vladivostok, Russia through December 2017 remind commuters of the proximity of the tropical Marianas, conveniently reached via air service connections in Seoul, Korea. **MVA**

Sun says he can't use his $8,500 cash to post bail

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sen Sun could not use as an appearance bond the $8,500 that was seized from him because it has been converted by the U.S. government to a cashier's check and mailed off-island for safekeeping.

Sun, through counsel Benjamin K. Petersburg, is asking the U.S. District Court for the NMI to amend his conditions of release to require an unsecured bond rather than cash.

At a detention hearing last Nov. 15, U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather Kennedy allowed Sun's temporary release to a third-party custodian as soon as he posts an $8,500 bond, plus other conditions.

Sun, allegedly an overstaying Chinese tourist, was indicted in federal court for allegedly operating an unlicensed business that offered trip packages to pregnant Chinese women seeking to give birth here.

The indictment charged Sun with harboring illegal aliens, unlawfully employing aliens, and money laundering.

In Sun's latest motion, Petersburg said there was a mistake at the detention hearing and that Sun does not have cash to post as security. At that hearing, Petersburg said, the U.S. government's lawyer told the court that Sun had $8,500 when he was arrested by federal agents.

He said that unknown to Kennedy and Sun, the U.S. government had already converted the cash to a cashier's check and mailed it off-island for safekeeping. He said he only learned about this after the hearing.

Petersburg said the U.S. government intends to forfeit the cash and will not make it available for Sun to use as security for his temporary release.

Petersburg now wants to amend the conditions of Sun's release to an unsecured appearance bond but said the U.S. government intends to oppose this.

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Box C (pick 5)
Box D (pick 5)
TICKET 2
Mark 6 JACKPOT NUMBERS and mark 5 numbers in each Box A through F.
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Pick Your Favorite Numbers

Mark a coupon with your favourite numbers.
To mark a coupon place crosses in the numbered boxes.
To play ONE ticket go to the 'TICKET 1' section on a coupon and mark 6 JACKPOT numbers between 1 to 45 in the top game panel, then mark 5 numbers between 1 to 45 in each game Box A through F. You can play TWO tickets by filling out the 'TICKET 2' section on a coupon in the same way as for 'TICKET 1'.

OR

Ask for a Kwik Pik

Ask for a Kwik Pik ticket and have your numbers randomly picked for you.
The more games you play the better your chance of winning a prize!

What you need to win:

Division	Match	PRIZE
1st	All 6 Jackpot Numbers (Vertical Line)	$2MILLION*
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3rd	5 Numbers	$10,000*
4th	1 Jackpot Number Plus 4 Numbers	$5000
5th	4 Numbers	$200
6th	1 Jackpot Number Plus 3 Numbers	$50
7th	3 Numbers	$15
8th	1 Jackpot Number Plus 2 Numbers	$10

*In the case of more than one winning ticket for prize Divisions 1, 2 and 3, the prize will be divided by the total number of valid winning entries.

Odds

The odds of winning a prize are one in seven tickets on average: 1:7.

Tickets can be purchased at any of the authorized NMSA Lottery Agents; XO Supermarket, 99cent Supermarket, Twins Navy Hill, Sara Market, New Kagman Market, Lucky De Supermarket, Happy Market, Ming Yang Supermarket, Hanam Supermarket, Rising Supermarket, Friendly Mart or Twins Dan Dan.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950
Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
MEMBER
The Associated Press
Pacific Islands News Association

HOTTEST NEW PROFESSION IN WASHINGTON: APOLOGY COACH
NO, NO... STICK TO THE SCRIPT. BE CONTRITE WITH A TINGE OF WISTFUL REMORSE, BUT DON'T SOUND TOO "WHINY". TRY IT AGAIN FROM THE TOP.
FRANKEN
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EDITORIAL

Evangelicals face an internal test

For those evangelicals who steadfastly support the most conservative positions of the Republican Party—anti-abortion, anti-liberal, pro-gun rights, and of course, anti-Obama and anti-Clinton—the Roy Moore "situation" is a dilemma of considerable proportion.

These Republicans, after all, skewered President Bill Clinton over the Monica Lewinsky affair, and rightly so. Clinton's behavior is back in the spotlight, even now, in light of the accusations that Moore years ago made advances on teenagers (he was in his 30s at the time), and a growing awareness of sexual harassment after allegations and more involving actor Kevin Spacey and comedian Bill Cosby, along with North Carolina native Charlie Rose.

New York Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand stirred a firestorm among Democrats when she said that in hindsight, Clinton should have resigned the presidency when the Lewinsky story came to light. And the truth is, in putting the Clinton story in the context of today, Gillibrand may have more Democrats agreeing with her, though Clinton allies will never acknowledge it.

One group that will enthusiastically endorse Gillibrand's idea, already has, is one that agrees with her on few things—those evangelicals.

But now they're faced with a test. Roy Moore, the GOP nominee for U.S. senator from Alabama, has even some Republicans in Washington saying the women who have made accusations against him are credible, a tacit acknowledgement that in their view he likely did what the women

See EVANGELICALS on Next Page

Turning America's energy abundance into energy dominance

By NICOLAS LORIS
The Heritage Foundation

Nicolas Loris is the Herbert and Joyce Morgan Research Fellow in Energy and Environmental Policy at The Heritage Foundation.

President Donald Trump has spoken vociferously about American "energy dominance." That's good news for your energy bills, but also the economy at large.

Before understanding how we can achieve energy dominance, it's important to note that the U.S. is already a global energy powerhouse. For nearly six years, America has been the world's largest petroleum and natural gas producer. The result has been affordable power, new job opportunities, and a competitive industrial sector that relies on energy as a critical input for their operations.

After accounting for inflation, overall energy expenditures in 2015 were the lowest since 2004, driven in large part because of increased supplies. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, "In constant 2015 dollars, average annual household energy expenditures peaked at about $5,300 in 2008. Between 2008 and 2014, average annual household energy expenditures declined by 14.1 percent."

Nevertheless, a number of government-imposed obstacles prevent Americans from benefiting the nation's rich wealth of natural resources. Federal ownership and mismanagement of lands and coastal waters have stifled oil and gas production on federal lands. Opening access to natural resources currently off-limits should be step one.

Step two should be changing the regulatory landscape. Coal, struggling to compete with cheap natural gas, has also been knocked down by heavy-handed regulations that deliver no meaningful environmental benefit. Market forces may very well continue to diminish coal's share of the electricity pie, but unshackling domestic regulations will give the industry a fighting chance.

Onerous federal regulations often duplicate state regulations, requiring businesses to spend money jumping through unnecessary hoops rather than hiring another worker or investing in new equipment.

What would unleashing America's energy sector mean for the average household and the economy? Using a clone of the federal government's energy model, we can see that opening access and deregulating would generate significant economic gains.

Annual electricity expenditures will decline, resulting in a total savings of nearly $1,000 for such a household. These savings are particularly important for low-income families and seniors on fixed incomes, for whom energy costs represent a larger portion of their budget.

Increased energy supplies will drive prices down further, generating significant cost savings and overall economic gains to households. The average family of four gains more than $27,000 by 2035. In terms of total gross domestic product, these gains translate to an increase of more than $2.4 trillion for the entire U.S.

More opportunities for energy development also means more job opportunities. For instance, the prospect of more oil and gas extraction creates employment for those directly associated with the extraction including data scientists, engineers, and geologists.

Moreover, the energy boom provides more employment opportunities for local businesses near extraction sites such as hardware stores, hotels, laundromats, restaurants, and so forth. Heritage Foundation research estimates a peak employment gain of 1.4 million new jobs, and average gains of more than 660,000 jobs.

These gains occur for a variety of reasons. Even for businesses not directly or indirectly associated with energy production, cheaper energy lowers the cost of doing business. Nearly every business in the U.S. uses energy as an input cost for its product, whether it is as simple as paying the electricity bill or filling up a vehicle with gasoline or diesel to transport goods.

Cheaper energy means companies nationwide would incur lower operational costs and therefore have more resources to invest in labor and capital. Chemical companies are investing heavily in the U.S., citing the affordable and abundant natural gas as their motivation. As of July 2017, the American Chemistry Council reports that the industry is cumulatively investing $185 billion on 310 projects in the U.S.

Although lower energy prices may tamper new investments, companies are reducing operating costs and improving efficiency to enhance productivity. As Daniel Yergin, vice chairman of IHS Markit, has remarked, "The industry is in the middle of re-engineering its processes and its technologies to be a $50 industry, not a $100 industry." The federal government should not stand in the way of energy innovation.

The Trump administration has a lofty but achievable 3 percent target for economic growth. Capitalizing on America's energy abundance must be a part of that strategy.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Otdinariu na konbetsasion

Asolas, hu asimula asunto-ta siha ni man-basnak gi chat-disposision man-sabiun I Deni gi linala` i linahyan. Komprendiyun yangin enfin man-animu umatetuye asuntu siha para uma-adelanta monedan familia.

Lau betsan niha finenina mana potput 80 pot sientu mientras matira pidasun to`lañg gi pumalu siha na empleau. Seru para i mangaige gi praibet. Dios mihu na che`chu` kabron.

Siñku pot sientu `nai guaha planun para umahatsa apas hospitat 56-100 mas pot sientu? Kau magahet na ti in`li`e i destrosiu gi kada familia guine na che`chu` kabron? Kau ayu ha` in`lili`e i betsan miyu na esta lache i kuentas: manadaña` 100 yan 5 humuyuñg 80?

Gi tiempun eskases mauleg tafan humiddi umutot ti man-presisu siha na gastu. Pot ihemplo, haf` na mampos fatsu para umaribahan dos guma` lehislatura papa` gi unu? Magahet na 29 na membro presisu gi konsiderasion fotmat yan sustansiau na priniponen lai? Kuantu gi halum i 29 man-eskuela lai pat man-magradua gi koleho?

Kuanto na empleau gobietnu guaha pa`gu? Man-malefa hamyu na i publiku umapapase sueddun ennau siha na empleau ginen kontribusion aduana (tax)? Guaha mohon konsiderasion miyu ya in` limitte gi manu ha` presisu na empleau? Tatnai mattu gi hinasson miyu ya in` tiñgu` lokue` umusa i kontribusion mame aduana?

Dispues, taya` in` chegue mauleg para in` adelanta fuetsan familia mamahan nesessidat siha. Mas ke 20 años na tiempu gatdun gi halum mutuñg na sadog miserapble `nai in` pega i linahyan.

Empleau: I empleau bisnis i mas man-namase` pot ni hafa na hatsada guaha para siha. Lau ni unu soplu mahala apas tax. Kastigu para siha i sumen taya` kampun alibiu maseha para u fan haguñg ñaihon. Man-mafogse` sinparat aduana (tax) kulan ta kastitiga pot para ta premiu i man-dilinkuente na empleau gobietnu siha. Dios mihu!

Kinententu: Gi kada finattun ha`anen gupot siha, mesklau na sentimentu bumalulutan-yu`. Enfin, i mensahen Noche Buena ha dispacha todu chathinasog-hu ya ha pega gi kinententu yan magof na fasun felisitasion.

Ti deskribiyun i sumen namagof na siñienteta `nai ta prepara hit para selebrasion Noche Buena—i mafañagun i Niño. Desde misan gayu esta i lamasan amotsa todu man-magof. Gaige lokue` metgot na mañglu` tiempun Noche Buena gi aire. Magahet na tai achaigua na siñienten magof bumobohau i tautau siha.

Adelantu: Yangin guaha adelantun ekonomia haf` na taigue ennau gi sueddun i empleau siha? Lastima i annunsiun adelantu ginen as Biktot Hokog ni sen ti mattu guatu gi fuetsan monedan familia. Kase tiha repara na ti apostan gayera i ha fafana`. Lehitimu asuntun linahyan!

Birada: Sige huyuñg anunsiun haye man-kandidadatu. Ti namatman na maresibe kulan guinaifen maipe na mañglo`. Hu asimula na kase man-o`sun i tautau manadan dinage piot sa` mas makat i kinalamten familia.

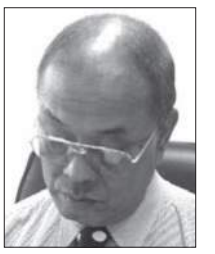
Lau un` ratututuha` mahatsa sueddun niha 80 pot sientu! Madagau `ñaihon un` to`lañg para u tinane` publiku mientras ha bobotsa i nuebu na sueddu ni mas ke $31,600 na hatsada gi un` sigidu.

Ti todu u bira siha halum gi puestun niha. Estague` `nai matutuhun pisadiyan talo`ane pot ti u fan mañoda` $71,000 na sueddu gi sakan taimanu pa`gu. Piot ya tinahuñg edukasion kolehu yan professionat na ekspirensia, gupot! Mattu i tiempu `nai debi tahatsa kualifikasion para offisiun publiku. I che`chu` seriosu. Pot areglon linahyan `nai debi un` lagse gi hilu` fitme na pisun edukasion kolehu yan ekspirensia.

I para un` chansa sin fitme na kualifikasion gi papa` sinturonmu kulan che`chu` kabron yan muron. Ha mirese i publiku primera na representante!

Greed: A scheme is reportedly in the works to ensure control of Tinian politics while simultaneously ignoring the importance of upholding the mandate of the people.

The rumor that Mayor JP may resign in January has reportedly prompted Sen. Francisco M. Borja to introduce legislation that would grant the governor authority to appoint a person in his place.



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

It would do away with the ascendancy provision of the current law.

It may look clever but it ignores the mandate of the people in the election of their public officials. The ascendancy provision would grant former mayor Ray Dela Cruz the opportunity to fill the vacancy. This is reportedly giving Borja nightmares over the loss of political control of leadership.

Isn't it true that a government's moral legitimacy comes from the "consent of the governed?" Is it difficult understanding that the transfer of the will of the people to a single person is a violation of their consent? Why pre-empt what's rightfully the purview of "we the people"? Did you secure their consent, sir? Shouldn't you learn to enshrine the "consent of the governed" in this and other cases too? Why trash their sentiment? Did you do anything to restore their confidence on the economic front? Or were you snoozing to screw them again like your impending legislation?

It's basic civics course to honor the "consent of the governed" and not "me, myself and I." Changing the laws on succession would only trumpet your suspect comprehension of the essence of a "government of the people, by the people and for the people." No mas!

EVANGELICALS

From Page 10

say he did.

But some evangelicals are continuing to stand by Moore, with one, Rev. David Floyd of Opelika, Alabama, saying "I know his heart" in backing Moore. Floyd in 1998 said that Bill Clinton should resign after the Lewinsky affair came to light.

It's true, of course that Moore has denied all allegations, and that Clinton, eventually, did not. Neither has Sen. Al Franken, a liberal Democratic senator from Minnesota who also stands accused of harassment.

But evangelicals who were so ready to oust Clinton cannot avoid outspoken observers who say they're being hypocritical to strongly defend Moore even as several women, none of whom appears to have anything to gain, speak out, and strongly so with specifics.

Evangelicals as a group didn't draw much attention from either political party until the last 40 years. The most notable evangelical of that time, ironically, may in fact have been a liberal Democrat, candidate and then-President Jimmy Carter. Not paying attention to this significant group, given strength by the depth of faith its members shared, was foolish on the part of Republicans and Democrats.

Republicans captured the evangelical vote, and have it still—even when the GOP candidate is Donald Trump, who is certainly not an evangelical and was found to have made some inflammatory, sexist comments about women, comments caught on tape.

Evangelicals are of course entitled to their beliefs, religious and political. But in the case of Roy Moore, they cannot escape the harsh irony of some, in fact apparently many, in their number continuing to support someone whose character issues are giving discomfort to even some of the most conservative members of Congress.

(c)2017 *The News & Observer* (Raleigh, N.C.)

Home care and hospice deliver freedom

By MARIANAS HEALTH
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

As we near the end of Home Care and Hospice Month 2017, we continue to recognize and give thanks to all individuals who give of themselves to take care of others—particularly those who are unable to completely care for themselves at this time. We thank these nurses, physical therapists, home health aides, social workers, personal caregivers and family caregivers who provide care in their patient's or loved one's homes with skill, dedication, and compassion.

If home care and hospice are new to you, and you find yourself in a situation where you need to find these services for a loved one or friend, there are a few things to keep in mind. Firstly, home care and hospice services do not focus solely on medical care—although this is of paramount importance. Home care and hospice provide medical care, emotional care, personal care, physical care, social care and attention to safety matters. Hospice additionally provides comfort and spiritual support to the patient and family.

Home care and hospice teams will need to work closely with the patient and/or primary caregiver—and the patient's primary care physician—to set goals and determine patient and family needs. They work together to meet these needs and goals so as to ensure the patient's quality of life is the best it can be.

Steps to finding home health care services

To help you find the home health care services needed, you can begin your search by visiting www.medicare.gov/homehealthcompare/search.html for a list of local providers. You can also ask friends and family as well as your physician or discharge planner—if the patient is being discharged from a hospital—for a list of local home health care providers.

Then, according to MedicareInteractive.org, you can contact the agencies and make inquiries. They recommend asking the following questions:

- What kind of care does the agency provide? Do they offer the services your loved one needs?
- What is the cost of services? Get this information in writing.
- Is the agency certified to take Medicare or Medicaid as payment?
- Does the agency offer discounts or free service to people with limited means?
- How does the agency decide what kind of services your loved one needs? Do they do an assessment? Will they talk to your loved one's doctor?
- Who would come to the house (a nurse, home health aide, a volunteer, etc.)? How much training has this person had?
- Does the agency have references or satisfaction reports for itself and staff?

Another list of recommended questions can be found at https://www.nahc.org/consumers-information/home-care-hospice-basics/right-home-care-provider/. Once you have reviewed the facts, you can contact the agencies that "sound best" and meet with their representatives in person to help you make your final decision.

While this may seem a little overwhelming, most times, home health agency representatives are more than happy to meet with you and help you understand and navigate the process of selecting and successfully working with home health care providers. Always remember, the patient has the right to choose the provider he or she believes will best meet his or her needs.

If you would like to learn more about home care and hospice topics, please visit www.marianashealth.com or feel free to call our office at 233-4646/7.

Sources

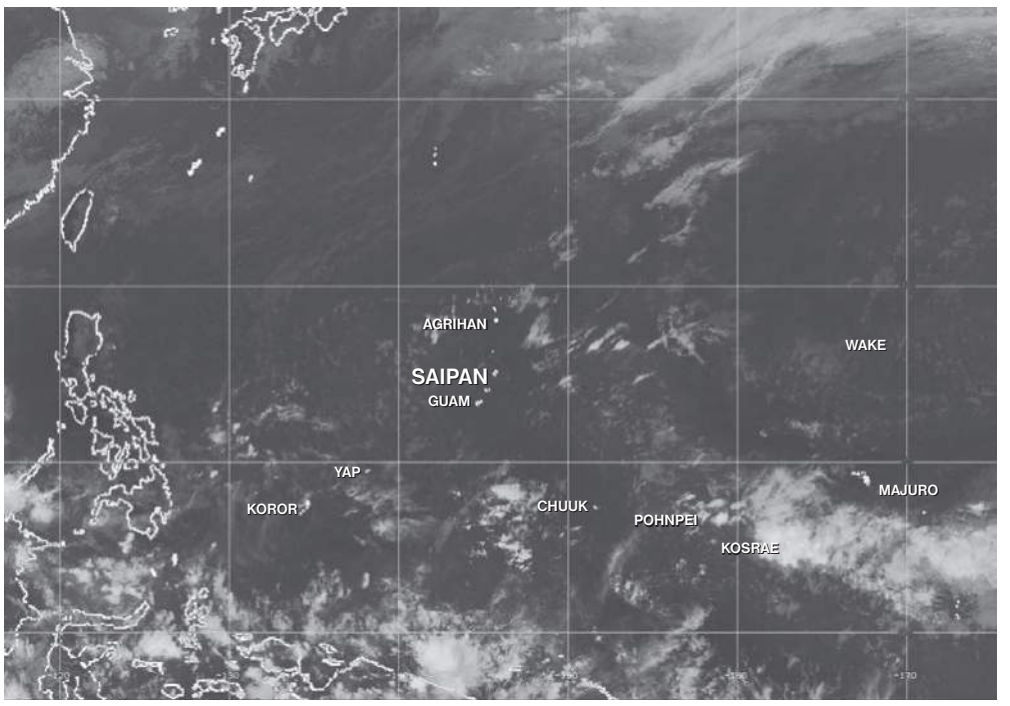
https://www.medicareinteractive.org/get-answers/caring-for-yourself-or-a-loved-one-with-medicare/caring-for-a-loved-one/how-do-i-choose-a-home-health-care-agency
www.medicare.gov/homehealthcompare/search.html
https://www.nahc.org/consumers-information/home-care-hospice-basics/right-home-care-provider/

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:21 AM, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2017
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An elongated upper-level low is centered NE of Saipan near 17N148E. Scattered showers and thunderstorms associated with the upper low are found mainly north of Saipan, but a few strikes have been noted south of Tinian and east of Rota. Winds have diminished to moderate to fresh, and seas are 7-9 feet at the buoys.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 81°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	85° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	85° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 81°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	72° / 61°
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	37° / 19°
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	77° / 63°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	83° / 74°
London	Partly Cloudy	43° / 30°
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	77° / 55°
Manila	Partly Cloudy	88° / 79°
Melbourne	Showers	86° / 68°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	77° / 71°
New York	Partly Cloudy	59° / 37°
Osaka	Showers	55° / 45°
Paris	Showers	46° / 43°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	46° / 28°
Rome	Rain	54° / 36°
Salem	Mostly Sunny	71° / 52°
San Francisco	Sunny	61° / 48°
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	36° / 18°
Tokyo	Rain	50° / 41°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	62° / 40°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
3:27 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.39
9:25 AM	LOW TIDE	0.51
4:03 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.96
10:52 PM	LOW TIDE	0.43

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:25 AM	5:44 PM
Thursday	6:26 AM	5:44 PM
Friday	6:27 AM	5:44 PM
Saturday	6:27 AM	5:44 PM
Sunday	6:28 AM	5:45 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	1:45 am	2:15 pm
Thursday	-	2:39 am	2:59 pm
Friday	-	3:35 am	3:46 pm
Saturday	-	4:34 am	4:36 pm
Sunday	-	5:36 am	5:31 pm

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 6, 2017

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:15pm	7:05pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW308	2:00am	6:05am	2, 3, 4
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1
TW308	2:35am	6:20am	6, 7
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	3:40am	7:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:30am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:00am	10:25am	1
JD396	4:50pm	8:15pm	4

SAIPAN-NANJING (NKG)

XP889	4:45pm	10:30pm	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:10am	10:55am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:55am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	9:00am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	8:10am	7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 3, 4, 6 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA6398/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6398/193	6:05pm	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:45am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7
UA6398/159	6:05pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:00pm	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
TW307	7:45pm	1:00am+1	1, 2, 3
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
TW307	8:05pm	1:35am+1	5, 6
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
LJ651	9:10pm	2:40am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:10am	3:30pm	4
JD395	10:05pm	5:30am+1	7

NANJING (NKG)-SAIPAN

XP888	9:35pm	4:00am+1	1, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/6395	12:40am	8:05am	3, 6 via GUM
UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA192/6395	10:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
UA184/6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:20pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/6395	11:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express, XP XTRA Airways; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

GCA Eagles soar in different competitions

Grace Christian Academy students from Kindergarten to 12th grade soared like their namesake school mascot, the eagle, in different competitions in October and November, showing excellent performance in forensic arts, theatre arts, and mathematics competitions.

GCA Kindergarten to 5th grades won several awards at the last monthly qualifying competition of Primary Grades Forensic Conference held on Nov. 13, making most of them eligible to compete in the regional competition in February.

GCA's 6th-8th grade competitors also did well at the National Junior Speech & Debate Association contest, while the 9th-12th graders acquitted themselves well at the National Speech & Debate Association's third monthly competition held last Nov. 16, making almost everyone in NJSDA qualified for the regional competition in February.

The GCA thespians also showcase their talents in theatre arts in the pre-regional rounds for both junior and senior thespians in the last monthly competitions.

GCA 8th graders won first place in the team results of the middle school Math Court competition held on Nov. 18, 2017, at Chacha Middle School. The GCA middle school and high school mathletes also won several awards and all of them are state round qualifiers, even though there are only few of them who competed for the first time in this school year's monthly qualifying competition.

GCA thanks all parents, volunteer judges, and coaches, and especially the GCA competitors for doing the best they can.

PRIMARY GRADES FORENSIC CONFERENCE

K-2 DIVISION
Dramatic Interpretation A
Hans Gabriel Ordas, 2nd Place

Humorous Interpretation A
Anne Gabrielle Emalie Arriola, 2nd Place

Impromptu Speaking A
Avania Clarise Quichocho, 1st Place
Anne Gabrielle Emalie Arriola, 2nd Place
Prince Jhulz Reyes, 3rd Place
Hannah Gabaldon, 4th Place
John Rosh Vivero, 5th Place

Impromptu Speaking B
Eliane Nerisse Pagaduan, 1st Place
Akira Ito, 2nd Place
Hans Gabriel Ordas, 3rd Place
Justo Jeremiah Quitugua, 5th Place

Readers Forum A
Kazumi Nalukea Lizama, 3rd Place

Readers Forum Masters B
Hannah Gabaldon, 1st Place
Avania Clarise Quichocho, 4th Place

Readers Forum Masters C
Eliane Nerisse Pagaduan, 1st Place
Justo Jeremiah Quitugua, 3rd Place

3-5 DIVISION
Dramatic Interpretation A
Arielle Mae Matutino, 2nd Place
Tae Hee Kim, 4th Place

Humorous Interpretation A
Moira Grace Ernest, 5th Place

Duo Interpretation A
Clarisse Angelique Marzan, 3rd Place
Min Su Andy Kim, 3rd Place

Impromptu Speaking A
Nestor Ablog Jr., 2nd Place
Jessica Yao Ma, 5th Place

Impromptu Speaking B
Janus Roman Calayo, 1st Place

Impromptu Speaking A
Moira Grace Ernest, 3rd Place

Readers Forum A
Arielle Mae Matutino, 2nd Place

Readers Forum Masters C
Eunice Nicole Pagaduan, 1st Place
Angieleysha Marie Punzalan, 3rd Place
Jessica Yao Ma, 5th Place

Choral Speaking A
Jeongyun Jang, 4th Place
Noah Sang Min Lee, 4th Place
Alyssa Kim, 4th Place
Ji Yun Kim, 4th Place
Min You, 4th Place

K5 to 5th Grade homeroom teachers: Sheryl Joy Prieto, Courtney Poppinga, Miriam Dilse, Deenalin Crook, Amanda Haas, Rowena Libut

PGFC coach/coordinator: Esther Manzano

Judges: Marilyn Aldan, Richard Julio Reyes, Justise Marie Quitugua, Claire Angela Marzan, Oscar Li

NATIONAL JUNIOR SPEECH & DEBATE ASSOCIATION

Duo Interpretation A
Kei Lizama, 5th Place
Sara Elizabeth Keaton, 5th Place

Duo Interpretation B
Soleil Lamar, 1st Place
Brandie Matsumoto, 1st Place

Humorous Interpretation B
Steven Adriatico, 2nd Place

Extemporaneous Speech A
James Alexander Keaton, 1st Place
Anthony Jacob DLG Camacho, 2nd Place

Impromptu Speech A
Anthony Jacob DLG Camacho, 3rd Place

Impromptu Speech B
James Alexander Keaton, 1st Place

Impromptu Speech C
Sara Elizabeth Keaton, 2nd Place
Michelle Ji Yeon Jeon, 5th Place

Original Oratory A
Joyce Liv Francisco, 5th Place

Story Telling A
Maui Akamai Johnson, 1st Place

Story Telling B
Filomenaleonisa Iakopo, 5th Place

Prose Reading Masters A
Maria Elizabeth Bonto, 1st Place

Prose Reading Masters B
Filomenaleonisa Iakopo, 1st Place
Joyce Liv Francisco, 3rd Place
James Alexander Keaton, 4th Place
Eun Sol Ena Kim, 5th Place

Prose Reading Masters C
Matthew Gabriel Ernest, 2nd Place
Steven Adriatico, 4th Place

Poetry Reading Masters A
Steven Adriatico, 3rd Place
Matthew Gabriel Ernest, 4th Place

Poetry Reading Masters B
Luis Jerome Gaspar, 3rd Place
Joyce Liv Francisco, 5th Place

Poetry Reading Masters C
Maui Akamai Johnson, 5th Place

Chamorro Prose Reading
Hannah Tenorio, 3rd Place

NATIONAL SPEECH & DEBATE ASSOCIATION

Dramatic Interpretation A
Seong Beom Kevin Song, 2nd Place
Johnny Jin, 3rd Place

Original Oratory A
Na Lee Christy Lee, 2nd Place
Chener Oscar Li, 4th Place

US Extemporaneous Speech
Arvin Dayao, 2nd Place

International Extemporaneous Speech
Joshua Pajarillaga, 1st Place
Lanz Jabez Victoria, 4th Place
Ao Fheng Louis Zheng, 5th Place

Commentary
Arvin Dayao, 1st Place
Joshua Pajarillaga, 2nd Place
Lanz Jabez Victoria, 4th Place

Impromptu Speech A
Na Lee Christy Lee, 4th Place
Arvin Dayao, 5th Place

Impromptu Speech C
Johnny Jin, 4th Place

Prose Reading Masters A
Na Lee Christy Lee, 4th Place

NJSDA/NSDA coach/coordinator: Grace Duran

Competition registrar: Esther Manzano

Judges: Alicia Gray Cortes, Sandy Howard, Melody Woo, Leoloni Taule, Gloria Cabug, Aaron Cabug

INTERNATIONAL THESPIAN SOCIETY COMPETITION

Junior Thespian
Solo Musical Theater
Sara Elizabeth Keaton, 4th Place

Thespian Coach/Coordinator-
Miss Allison Burnette

Competition Registrar- Mrs. Esther Manzano

Judge- Mrs. Sandy Howard

MATH COURT COMPETITION

Middle School
Team Result
Miku Kimura, 1st Place
Joyce Liv Francisco, 1st Place
Richard Villagomez, 1st Place

Individual Result
8th Grade
Kangeun Benjamin Lee, 3rd Place
Richard Villagomez, 4th Place

STATE ROUND QUALIFIERS
Miku Kimura
Joyce Liv Francisco
Richard Villagomez,
Kangeun Benjamin Lee
Edward Jong Hyun Kil

High School

Individual Result
10th Grade
Seong Beom Kevin Song, 2nd Place
11th Grade
Joshua Qiu. 1st Place

STATE ROUND QUALIFIERS
10th Grade
Seong Beom Kevin Song

11th Grade
Joshua Qui
Marcelo Masilungan Jr.

NJSDA/NSDA coach/coordinator: Jae Kwang Oh

Judges: Jae Kwang Oh, Ashley Blose. ***(PR)***

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The Mode Tour Travel Mart was joined by the Marianas Visitors Authority on Nov. 16-19, 2017, in Seoul, Korea. MVA

MVA, partners join Mode Tour Travel Mart

On Nov. 16-19, 2017, the Marianas Visitors Authority participated in the 2017 Mode Tour Travel Mart, an annual travel fair organized by the second largest major wholesaler in Korea.

Joined by six hotel partners—Aqua Resort Club, Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Kensington Hotel Saipan, Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, and Saipan World Resort—the MVA had a pavilion-style booth that included a lounge venue for business meetings and media interviews. The pavilion also featured several large, LED screens displaying images and videos to promote the beauty, culture, history, attractions, and cuisine of the Marianas to both industry partners and the general public.

Over 350 figures in the travel industry, from oversea tourism representatives to airlines, hotels, attractions and industry partners in 55 countries participated in 2017 Mode Tour Travel Mart.

"Through this travel mart, we were able to introduce the properties, services and products of the Marianas to potential visitors," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. "As a result, more than 800 people booked Marianas package tour products, and we expect more ad exposure as a result of our participation."

The four-day event drew over 73,800 visitors. To advertise the event and increase sales of tour products, Mode Tour offered special prices for tour products only available at the fair. More than 25,000 visitors purchased Mode Tour's travel products, representing an increase of 40 percent from $20 million in 2016 to $28 million in 2017. ***(MVA)***

Marc Knapper, chargé d'affaires of the U.S. Embassy in Seoul, second from right, visits the Marianas Visitors Authority pavilion during the Mode Tour Travel Mart on Nov. 16, 2017, in Seoul, Korea. Pictured from left are MVA statistician Christian Delos Santos, MVA marketing specialist Hillary Agulto, Knapper, and MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. MVA

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

INVITATION FOR BID
PROJECT NO.: CPA-IFB-006-18

PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF THREE (3) UNIT 2017 ACCESS CAB WORK TRUCKS 4CYL/4WD, AUTO TRANSMISSION, AIR CONDITION WHITE COLOR, ALL OTHER FEATURES AS PER FACTORY SPECS. LOCKABLE FITTED BED TOOL BOX TO BE INCLUDED.

TWO (2) UNITS ARE FOR THE SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. ONE (1) UNIT IS FOR TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. BIDDERS ARE RESPONSIBLE TO DELIVER THE VEHICLES TO THEIR DESTINATION.

BIDDERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE ORIGINAL BID AND 2 COPIES TO THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED: "PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-006-18" BIDDERS SHALL GUARANTEE DELIVERY OF THE VEHICLES WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM AWARD OF THIS BID. QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS BID SHALL BE IN WRITING AND SEND VIA EMAIL TO atudela@cpa.gov.mp prior to December 8, 2017.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND §40-50-1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND WAIVE IMMATERIALDEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

/s/
CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Date: 11/21/2017

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com
Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

AMENDED NOTICE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-001-18
SUBMISSION DATE: JANUARY 08, 2018 TIME: 2:00 P.M.
"LEASE AND IMPROVEMENT OF ECHO DOCK"
PORT OF SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

THE PROPOSAL PACKAGE IS AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT BEGINNING NOVEMBER 22, 2017.

PROPOSERS ARE TO SUBMIT ONE (1) ORIGINAL AND THREE (3) COPIES IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND MARKED: **CONFIDENTIAL "LEASE AND IMPROVEMENT OF ECHO DOCK (RFP-001-18)"**. PROPOSERS SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION ALL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROCUREMENT BEFORE FINALIZING ITS PROPOSAL. ALL PROPOSALS MUST BE SUBMITTED AT THE CPA ADMINISTRATION OFFICE, 2ND FLOOR OF THE ARRIVAL TERMINAL BY JANUARY 08, 2018 AT 2:00 P.M..

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF CPA.

/s/ **CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO** DATE: NOVEMBER 13, 2017
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

INVITATION FOR BID
SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT/
PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-002-18

MAINTENANCE DEPT OFFICE RENOVATION

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (the "CPA") is accepting sealed bids, subject to the terms and conditions of this Invitation for Bid (the "IFB"), and other contract provisions, for bids from firms, companies and/or corporations for office renovations to the Maintenance Department Office, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Saipan International Airport.

The Scope of Work is available for pick-up beginning November 29, 2017 from 0800 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Executive Director's Office, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport. The Scope of Work includes layouts and project specification. Bidders must submit all required documents listed in the Scope of Work. All responses to this IFB shall also take into account any and/or all costs that will be charged to the bidder awarded the contract for the project. Bidders shall also take into consideration all necessary badging requirements and fees for this project if so required.

Questions and/or clarification concerning this project shall be in writing and sent to the attention of the Executive Director through email at cpa.receptionist@pticom.com with copy to Fermin Flores at ferminf@cpa.gov.mp no later than December 8, 2017.

All bids shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT OFFICE RENOVATION, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY CPA-SA-002-18." One (1) original and two (2) copies of the bid must be submitted no later than 2 p.m. LOCAL TIME, December 15, 2017, to the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so, would be in CPA's best interest. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest. All bids shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO

Executive Director Date

IPI backs second staging of 'A Christmas Village'

Imperial Pacific International, Ltd. successfully partnered with the First Lady Diann Torres Foundation for the second staging of A Christmas Village, a pioneering project of the first lady, which brings the spirit of the holidays to the islands.

Located at the courtyard of the Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe, Imperial Pacific's Corporate Social Responsibility team led in the construction and building of the stage, bridge, barriers, and mounting of power panels. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Imperial Pacific International's Corporate Social Responsibility team gather to set up the bridge at the A Christmas Village at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The colorful look of the bridge at the A Christmas Village at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center is courtesy of the work of Imperial Pacific's CSR team.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

One of the many attractions at the Christmas Village gets a fresh coat of paint before last Sunday's unveiling at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Imperial Pacific's Corporate Social Responsibility sent a team to work alongside the First Lady Diann Torres Foundation in ensuring the successful staging of A Christmas Village. In this photo is CSR representative D.J. Ayuyu.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Imperial Pacific International's Corporate Social Responsibility manager Alex Palacios paints the roofing of the stage that was built by the CSR team at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Imperial Pacific International's Corporate Social Responsibility coordinator Martin Pangelinan is hard at work.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Braving the intermittent weather, Imperial Pacific's Corporate Social Responsibility team successfully completed as scheduled the task at hand, including this stage.

Asia

Pope meeting Suu Kyi on refugee crisis amid outcry

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Pope Francis spends his first full day in Myanmar traveling to the country's capital Tuesday to meet with the civilian leader, Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi, a day after hosting the military general in charge of the crackdown on the country's Muslim Rohingya minority.

Francis' speech to Suu Kyi, other Myanmar authorities and the diplomatic corps in Naypyitaw is the most anticipated of his visit, given the outcry over the crackdown, which the U.S. and U.N. have described as a campaign of "ethnic cleansing" to drive out the Rohingya from northern Rakhine state.

The operation, launched in August after Rohingya militants attacked security posts, has sent more than 620,000 Rohingya into neighboring Bangladesh, where they have reported entire villages were burned and looted, and women and girls were raped.

Myanmar's Catholic leaders have stressed that Suu Kyi has no voice to speak out against the military over the operation, and have urged continued support for her efforts to move Myanmar toward a more democratic future that includes all its religious minorities, Christians in particular. How Francis bridges the local Catholic concerns with his legacy of speaking out for oppressed minorities is the key to watch in his speech in Naypyitaw.

Also Tuesday, the pope is scheduled to meet with other religious leaders at the archbishop's residence in Yangon. Prominent Buddhist leader Sitagu is not on the list of those expected to meet the pope though the monk met with Francis's predecessor, Pope Benedict XVI. Sitagu has been criticized for using ethnic slurs against Muslims, particularly the Rohingya, although he received an award presented by Suu Kyi earlier this year.

Francis dove into the crisis hours after arriving on Monday by meeting with the commander responsible for the crackdown, Gen. Min Aung Hlaing, and three members of the bureau of special operations. The Vatican didn't provide details of the contents of the 15-minute "courtesy visit," only to say that "They spoke of the great responsibility of the authorities of the country in this moment of transition."

Gen. Min Aung Hlaing's office said in a statement on Facebook that he is willing to have "interfaith peace, unity and justice." The general added that there was no religious or ethnic persecution or discrimination in Myanmar, and that the government allowed different faith groups to have freedom of worship.

Rohingya Muslims have long faced state-supported discrimination in the predominantly Buddhist country and were stripped of citizenship in 1982, denying them almost all rights and rendering them stateless. They cannot travel freely, practice their religion, or work as teachers or doctors, and they have little access to medical care, food or education.

Volcano gushing ash over Bali closes airport for a 2nd day

KARANGASEM, Indonesia (AP)—A volcano gushing towering columns of ash closed the airport on the Indonesian tourist island of Bali for a second day Tuesday, disrupting travel for tens of thousands, as authorities renewed their warnings for villagers to evacuate.

Mount Agung has been hurling clouds of white and dark gray ash about 3,000 meters (9,800 feet) above its cone since the weekend and lava is welling in the crater, sometimes reflected as an orange-red glow in the ash plumes. Its explosions can be heard about 12 kilometers (7 1/2 miles) away.

The local airport authority said Tuesday that closure for another 24 hours was required for safety reasons. Volcanic ash poses a deadly threat to aircraft, and ash from Agung is moving south-southwest toward the airport. Ash has reached a height of about 30,000 feet as it drifts across the island.

"I don't know, we can't change it," said stranded German tourist Gina Camp, sitting on a bench at the airport. "It's the nature and we have to wait until it's over."

She decided to look on the bright side, saying she planned to go back outside to enjoy another day on the island.

Indonesia's National Disaster Mitigation Agency raised the volcano's alert to the highest level Monday and expanded an exclusion zone to 10 kilometers (6 miles) from the crater in places from the previous 7 1/2 kilometers. It said a larger eruption is possible, though a top government volcanologist has also said the volcano could continue for weeks at its current level of activity and not erupt explosively.

Agung's last major eruption in 1963 killed about 1,100 people.

Authorities have told 100,000 people to leave homes that are in close proximity to the volcano, though as of Monday tens of thousands stayed because they felt safe or didn't want to abandon livestock. They have also warned people of the danger of mudflows from the volcano as it's now rainy season in Bali.

Villager Putu Sulasmi said she fled with her husband and other family members to a sports hall that is serving as an evacuation center.

"We came here on motorcycles. We had to evacuate because our house is just 3 miles from the mountain. We were so scared with the thundering sound and red light," she said.

The family had stayed at the same sports center in September and October when the volcano's activity was high but it didn't erupt then. They had returned to their village about a week ago.

"If it has to erupt, let it erupt now rather than leaving us in uncertainty. I'll just accept it if our house is destroyed," she said.

Volcanologist Erik Klemetti at Dennison University in Ohio said Agung's 1963 eruption was big enough to cool the earth slightly but it's unclear whether this time it will have a similar major eruption or simmer for a prolonged period.

"A lot of what will happen depends on the magma underneath and what it is doing now," he said.

World

Zimbabwe forces say country back to 'normalcy' after crisis

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP)—Zimbabwe's security forces on Monday reported incidents of looting and illegal occupation of farms and houses following the resignation last week of former President Robert Mugabe and the inauguration of his successor, Emmerson Mnangagwa.

However, the military and police also said in a joint statement that the "situation in our country has returned to normalcy" after a crisis during which the military staged a takeover and huge crowds demonstrated against Mugabe at the end of his 37-year rule.

Police, largely absent from the streets of the capital, Harare, during the tumultuous leadership transition, will assume its role "as stipulated in the constitution" and conduct joint patrols with the military, including in the central business district, the statement said.

Many Zimbabweans applauded the military for its role in Mugabe's resignation on Nov. 21, but resent the police for alleged corruption. At Mnangagwa's inauguration on Friday, military commander Gen. Constantino Chiwenga drew cheers from the crowd of tens of thousands of spectators, while the police commissioner, Gen. Augustine Chihuri, was booed.

Mnangagwa, once a close confidant of Mugabe whose Nov. 6 dismissal as vice president led to Zimbabwe's momentous leadership change, has urged people not to settle old scores as a new government seeks to rebuild the economically struggling country. However, the statement from the security forces said there have been some problems.

"Law enforcement agents are already receiving reports of looting and illegal occupation of other people's properties, particularly farms and houses," it said. The statement described such actions as criminal and against the spirit of reconciliation that the new government seeks to build, saying they "will be met by the full wrath of the law."

Land is a contentious issue in Zimbabwe, where Mugabe's government, starting around 2000, initiated land seizures and evictions of farmers from the country's white minority, which relinquished power in 1980 after a guerrilla war by black nationalists.

Mugabe said the often-violent reform program was meant to redistribute resources to poor blacks, but many prime farms instead ended up in the hands of ruling ZANU-PF party leaders, party loyalists, security chiefs, relatives and cronies. More recently, the situation was further complicated by rifts within the ruling party that led to the military intervention and the victory of Mnangagwa over a faction linked to Mugabe's wife Grace, who previously had presidential ambitions.

Mnangagwa in his inauguration speech said farmers would be compensated for the seized land but said the program itself would not be reversed.

UN urges Syrian government to attend Geneva talks

GENEVA (AP)—The U.N.'s top envoy for Syria said Monday he hopes and expects the Syrian government will show up for "serious talks" with the opposition this week in Geneva, despite reluctance by Damascus officials to commit to the international body's negotiations process.

The United Nations is scheduled to resume the peace talks between the government and the Syrian opposition in this Swiss city Tuesday. The opposition's delegation arrived Monday, after publishing a communique last week that said it was ready for talks "without preconditions."

The government had not yet named a delegation to the talks, and the pro-government newspaper Al-Watan said Damascus would postpone its arrival, citing the opposition's position that President Bashar Assad must leave at the start of any transitional period that will lead Syria out of nearly seven years of civil war. The paper said the demand was a "hidden condition."

But, speaking to the Security Council via videoconference, U.N. Special Envoy Staffan de Mistura said, "Naturally we hope, and indeed expect, that the government will be on its way shortly."

A diplomatic official close to the negotiations said the U.N. was expecting the government team to arrive late, but meetings between the opposition and de Mistura would begin Tuesday as planned.

The head of the opposition's delegation, Nasr Hariri, told reporters that the opposition was "ready to negotiate," and he accused the government of stalling.

"The thing the regime is most afraid of is political negotiations," Hariri said.

His delegation was expanded last week under Saudi Arabian auspices to include opposition factions seen by Damascus as more palatable for negotiations, including the "Moscow group," which has resisted calling for Assad's departure. Hariri said the reformulation removed any excuse for Syria's government and its chief diplomatic backer, Russia, to avoid the U.N. talks.

Syria's government has refused to negotiate over Assad's future in any talks with the opposition. It says it wants to focus on defeating "terrorism," its byword for armed opponents of the Syrian president.

The talks follow a week of high level meetings that were expected to pave the way for a revival of the stalled diplomatic process. Assad paid a surprise visit to Sochi, Russia, last week to thank Russian President Vladimir Putin for his vital military support. Putin directed Russia's air force to intervene on the side of Assad in 2015, likely saving the government from collapse when it appeared rebels would threaten the capital. Russia remains a key sponsor of the Damascus government and has shielded it against sanctions and punitive resolutions in the U.N. Security Council.

De Mistura told the Security Council he expected the government's participation in the Geneva talks, "particularly in light of President Assad's commitment to President Putin when they met in Sochi."

He stressed he would "not accept any preconditions by any party" and said the talks would be guided by a 2015 Security Council resolution mandating a political transition for Syria.

This latest round of Geneva talks, the eighth since 2012, will focus on getting to an "inclusive process" to draft and ratify a new constitution, De Mistura said. This would put off the contentious issue of Assad's future.

Good Housekeeping

Burgundy Glow ajuga designer options for cool season containers

By NORMAN WINTER
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

If I asked if you had bugleweed in your garden you would probably gasp and say I hope not. That's just one of those unfortunate names for not only a great ground cover but a terrific plant to use in your cool season mixed containers.

Think of it as not a weed but ajuga which is a plant for the entire country as it is cold hardy from zones 3-10. It is in the mint family making it related to other garden plants like salvias and coleus.

Burgundy Glow which exhibits green, cream and pink with royal violet-blue flowers is one of my all-time favorites. While I like it for the low growing 8- to 12-inch texture it offers the front of the landscape, I love it in mixed containers as it gently tumbles over the edge. Simply put, this one of the best spiller or even filler plants you can use.

In the landscape, Burgundy Glow and other ajugas can be aggressive and seem to tolerate a wide variety of soils and light conditions. It quickly spreads by runners, forming a dense mat of colorful foliage, accompanied by showy blue or pink spring flowers. I will say in my 40 years of gardening I have never had it be a nuisance.

I believe that most gardeners have not taken advantage of the artistic possibilities in cool season designer type containers. Combined with other foliage like Goldilocks lysimachia and Ogon Japanese sweet flag Burgundy Glow is stunning in the contrast it provides. Use it with pansies and violas, and it will add even more interest to your container.

In the landscape, I have admired it in combination with flowers like perennial pink verbenas and other foliage plants among stepping stones.

Despite its durability, Burgundy Glow ajuga and others do best in fertile well-drained soil. A site in morning sun and afternoon shade, or high filtered light, allows them to look their best, although it is not uncommon to find exceptional plantings in full sun.

Nursery grown plants can be set out anytime during the growing season, with early spring or fall being the best choice. Space plants 6 to 12 inches apart. Ajuga is very easy to grow, after the spring bloom, deadhead the flowers, for a tidy look and to maximize air circulation. This can be accomplished with a string trimmer, high set mower or by hand pruning.

Dividing every 2 to 3 years will also increase air movement. Reduced air circulation can cause crown rot. You may find, keeping it confined to the designated area, requires a little digging, but it usually is not overwhelming.

While I have been touting Burgundy Glow, there are more varieties. Bronze Beauty with metallic bronze foliage, Catlin's Giant with large bronze/green leaves, and Mahogany with the dark glossy purple leaves are some of the best selections. Multicolor, an unfortunate name used for marketing purposes, is dazzling with red, bright green, gold and pink.

Designing cool season containers can be so much fun. Make foliage plants like Burgundy Glow and other ajugas parts of your recipe.

TNS

Burgundy Glow ajuga cascades over the edge of this container, also featuring Delta Marina pansies.

TNS

Burgundy Glow ajuga makes an artistic filler that also gently spills over the edge of this cool season container.

The Garden Bug
A fun website to explore is Wild Flowers of Israel found at www.wildflowers.co.il/english
Within categories such as medicinal, herbal and Biblical, information is given on individual plants found in Israel, such as their common names, Hebrew names (with a pronunciation feature), scientific designations, physical attributes, along with flowering times, habitat, geographic distribution and color photographs.
Almond tree flower
- Brenda Weaver
Source: http://www.wildflowers.co.il/english

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FIRST YEAR DEATH ANNIVERSARY

† Hilaria Kisa Santos

We, the family would like to invite relatives and friends to join us as we commemorate the first year death anniversary of our beloved mother/grandmother unto eternal life. Daily Masses are celebrated as follows at Santa Soledad Church in Kagman.

Sunday	:	November 26, 2017	:	8:00 a.m.
Monday	:	November 27, 2017	:	6:00 p.m.
Tuesday	:	November 28, 2017	:	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	:	November 29, 2017	:	6:00 p.m.
Thursday	:	November 30, 2017	:	6:00 p.m.
Friday	:	December 1, 2017	:	6:00 p.m.
Saturday	:	December 2, 2017	:	6:00 p.m.
Sunday	:	December 3, 2017	:	8:00 a.m.
Monday	:	December 4, 2017	:	6:00 p.m.

On the final day, Monday, December 4th, an appreciation dinner will be served at the Santa Soledad Social Hall. Please join us in our prayers and dinner.

Si Yuus Ma'ase and God Bless
Ellen, Maggie and Vivian & Families

Life & Style

CNN's Blitzer fights back against Trump's attack

NEW YORK (AP)—CNN fought back against President Donald Trump on Monday with a lengthy video showing its reporters in dangerous situations and Wolf Blitzer saying that despite the insults, "even the loudest critics can't silence the facts."

Trump has criticized CNN for "fake news" for the entirety of his presidency. Over the Thanksgiving weekend, he took particular aim at the CNN International by saying on Twitter that the network lies and represents the U.S. poorly to the world. CNN was a target again on Monday.

Blitzer

Trump

Blitzer, on CNN Monday afternoon, said the network's reporters risk their lives in the world's most dangerous places every day. He showed a four-minute clip reel of CNN reports from Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, Puerto Rico, North Korea and Bangladesh, with a soundtrack of bullets and bombs.

"CNN and CNN International are not sponsored by any state or autocrat or any political organization," Blitzer said. "Despite the constant criticism of the president, we are unwavering in our mission—free and independent, as the press should be."

Trump took a more general media shot on Monday, tweeting: "We should have a contest as to which of the Networks, plus CNN and not including Fox, is the most dishonest, corrupt and/or distorted in its political coverage of your favorite president (me). They are all bad. Winner to receive the FAKE NEWS TROPHY!"

Blitzer said the pursuit of truth and rejection of attacks is something CNN holds sacred. "No matter how many insults or blatant assaults on the press and its freedoms, this pursuit is something for which we will never bend or break and even the loudest critics can't silence the facts," he said.

CNN declined further comment on Blitzer's rebuke and who might have ordered it.

After Trump's Saturday tweet about CNN International, CNN tweeted back that "it's not CNN's job to represent the U.S. to the world. That's yours. Our job is to report the news."

The CNN tweet received more than 289,000 endorsements on Twitter. Trump's original message had 109,000.

Royal romance: Prince Harry, Meghan Markle to wed next year

LONDON (AP)—Newly engaged Prince Harry and Meghan Markle on Monday lifted the secrecy that had shrouded their 18-month romance, revealing they met on a blind date, bonded during a camping trip under the stars in Botswana and that Harry proposed over a roast chicken dinner at their London home, getting down on one knee to pop the question.

Speaking just hours after the couple's engagement was announced by palace officials acting on behalf of Prince Charles, Harry said he was thrilled when she said yes, and he placed an engagement ring of his own design on her finger that included two diamonds that had belonged to his mother, Princess Diana, set alongside a large central diamond from Botswana.

"Just an amazing surprise," said the 36-year-old Markle, an American actress known for her role in the TV legal drama "Suits." ''It was so sweet and natural and very romantic."

Did she hesitate? Not if Harry can be trusted.

"She didn't even let me finish," the 33-year-old prince said of his betrothed. "She said 'Can I say yes, can I say yes?' And then there were hugs and I had the ring in my finger and I was like 'Can I, can I give you the ring?' She goes, 'Oh yes, the ring.'"

The couple said they plan to marry in the spring, and Harry —fifth in line for the British throne—said he hopes to start a family.

They seemed very much aglow as they sat on a sofa during their first ever joint interview and described their long-distance courtship, with Markle busy filming in Canada and Harry fulfilling royal duties in Britain. They said they saw each other every two weeks, despite the pressure and put their relationship first.

Markle, whose mother is African-American and whose father is white, said she had been "disheartened" when early press coverage about their relationship focused on her mixed-race background. But she seemed thrilled to be joining the royal family and spoke glowingly about Harry's brother Prince William, his wife Kate and other senior royals.

They will live in Nottingham Cottage on the grounds of Kensington Palace, where Harry proposed and where they will be neighbors with William and Kate. Markle has already brought one of her rescue dogs from Canada, while the other is staying with a friend for now.

In many ways, their story mirrors those of engaged couples everywhere—with some crucial differences.

When they first went on vacation together, it was a five-day camping trip in the wilderness of Botswana—where one hopes the royal protection officers gave them some space. And when Markle met Harry's grandmother for tea, she was sitting down with Queen Elizabeth II, the longest-reigning monarch in British history.

Markle said they managed to date for five or six months before the media found out, giving them an "amazing" amount of privacy as they got to know each other.

She said she knew very little about the royal family when a mutual friend suggested a blind date with Harry. Markle had only one question: "Is he nice?"

Their first date, for a drink, went well and they quickly decided to meet again. Harry said it took three or four weeks to persuade Markle to join him in Botswana.

For his part, Harry said he had never watched the TV show "Suits" and hadn't heard of Markle. But when he met her, he said he quickly realized he would have to "up my game" if he was to have a chance.

"Taking that huge leap of only two dates and then going effectively on holiday together in the middle of nowhere and, you know, sharing a tent together and all that kind of stuff. It was ... fantastic. It was absolutely amazing to get to know her as quickly as I did," Harry said.

The rugged red-headed prince, an army veteran whose one-time bad-boy image has been superseded by his tireless devotion to wounded veterans and his embrace of charitable causes, has said for several years that he wants to start a family, and rumors of his engagement to Markle had been flying for months, fueled by reports she was leaving her television show.

The marriage represents a first-ever blending of Hollywood glamor with the once-stuffy royal family, which has of late seemed less fixed in its ways, and brings a divorced American woman into a highly visible role.

Prince William and his pregnant wife Kate enthusiastically welcomed Markle to the royal family.

"We are very excited for Harry and Meghan," they said in a statement. "It has been wonderful getting to know Meghan and to see how happy she and Harry are together."

Actress sues Weinstein, accusing him of sex trafficking

NEW YORK (AP)—Harvey Weinstein engaged in sex trafficking by traveling to Europe and luring an aspiring actress from London to a hotel room where he sexually assaulted her, according to a new lawsuit filed against the disgraced movie producer.

The suit filed by Kadian Noble in federal court in Manhattan alleges that Weinstein went to London in 2014 and "groomed Kadian by telling her that he had a role in mind for her and that 'it will be good for you.'" Later that year, he approached her again at the Majestic Hotel in Cannes, France, and asked her to come to his hotel room to watch her demo reel, it says.

Weinstein "knew that the promise of a role or the use of his influence on her behalf would entice Kadian into his hotel room, and knew that once there he was in a position to force the sexual activity he desired," the suit says.

Kadian, 31, claims at one point, Weinstein put her on the phone with a Weinstein company producer who told her she "needed to be 'a good girl and do whatever he wished,' and if she did, then 'they would work' with her further," it says. After that, it alleges he molested her and forced her into the bathroom to watch him masturbate.

The suit was filed under a sex-trafficking statute that has a 10-year limit for filing a complaint against someone who traveled to commit a sex crime through coercion. It seeks unspecified damages.

A spokeswoman for Weinstein said Monday that he "denies allegations of non-consensual sex" and "has further confirmed that there were never any acts of retaliation against any women for refusing his advances."

In recent months, a widening scandal has seen Weinstein become the target of numerous sexual misconduct allegations made by actresses, models and other alleged victims. New York police have been investigating a 2010 rape allegation that could result in criminal charges.

Harvey Weinstein resigns from Directors Guild of America

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Harvey Weinstein is no longer a member of the Directors Guild of America.

A DGA representative said Weinstein resigned his membership effective Monday.

Weinstein has been expelled from a number of professional guilds and organizations, including the Producer's Guild and the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences since dozens of women have come forward to accuse the movie mogul of sexual harassment or sexual assaults, including rape. His representatives have denied all accusations of non-consensual sex.

The DGA represents more than 16,000 industry professionals including directors and members of directing teams. Although Weinstein was most well-known for producing films, he has a co-directing credit on the 1986 film "Playing for Keeps" with his brother Bob Weinstein. The DGA said last month that Weinstein was facing expulsion.

Jeremy Piven's freshman crime drama gets short season

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jeremy Piven's new crime drama TV series is getting a truncated season run.

All 13 episodes of "Wisdom of the Crowd" ordered by CBS will air, but the network said Monday it won't order more this season.

The decision follows sexual misconduct allegations leveled by three women against Piven, who has denied them. CBS said previously it is looking into the claims but has issued no further statement.

Piven stars in the series as a tech guru who creates a crowd-sourcing app to help solve crimes, including his daughter's killing.

A spokeswoman for the former "Entourage" star didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

"Wisdom of the Crowd" has earned lackluster ratings, and CBS didn't comment on why it wasn't ordering a full season or on the drama's future.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Bruce Springsteen extends his Broadway concerts into June

NEW YORK (AP)—The Boss isn't leaving Broadway any time soon—he's extended his stay again, this time until summer. Bruce Springsteen said Monday that his one-man show, "Springsteen on Broadway," will extend a second time to June 30. He had previously planned to end in February. Springsteen performs 15 songs during the show and tells stories about growing up. Tickets for the show at the Walter Kerr Theatre have been reselling for more than $1,000. Ticket demand is so high that Ticketmaster is using a system that requires people to apply for ticket purchases. Producers said there is no additional registration for this latest extension.

Justices take up free speech case of anti-police rap lyrics

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP)—Pennsylvania's highest court will decide whether a Pittsburgh man's anti-police rap lyrics are protected free expression or amount to witness intimidation and making terroristic threats. The state Supreme Court will hear oral arguments on Tuesday in the case of Jamal Knox, who served state prison time for the song he recorded after being arrested on drug charges. Knox was charged after an officer found the YouTube video, performed by Knox under the name Mayhem Mal of the Ghetto Superstar Committee. The video taunts by name two officers involved in the drug arrest and mentions Richard Poplawski, who's on death row for killing three Pittsburgh police officers in 2009. Knox's lawyer says he wasn't trying to intimidate the officers and didn't intend the video to be posted online.

'Call Me By Your Name,' 'Get Out' lead Gotham Awards

NEW YORK (AP)—The sensual coming-of-age story "Call Me By Your Name" has won best feature film at the 27th Gotham Awards, an early Oscar season bellwether.

The last three best feature winners at the Gothams have gone on to win best picture at the Academy Awards: "Moonlight," ''Spotlight" and "Birdman."

Jordan Peele's "Get Out" came in with a leading five nominations, including best feature, and it dominated much of the night. Peele won for best screenplay and breakthrough director. The film also took the audience award.

The other nominees for best feature were Sean Baker's "The Florida Project," Craig Gillespie's "I, Tonya" and Josh and Benny Safdie's "Good Time."

The star-studded affair, held at Cipriani Wall Street in Lower Manhattan, also featured tributes to Nicole Kidman, Dustin Hoffman, Sofia Coppola, Jason Blum, Al Gore and cinematographer Ed Lachman.

Harry Potter-themed town celebration draws droves of muggles

NEWTON, N.J. (AP)—Wizards and muggles have turned out in droves for a Harry Potter-themed celebration in a small community, so much so the town is now looking to turn it into an annual event.

Spring Street in Newton was transformed on Saturday into Diagon Alley, the magical market from the J.K. Rowling book series.

More than two dozen restaurants and stores in Newton's main business district featured elements of the franchise, including a restaurant that served Butterbeer and a store that gave patrons magic wands.

Many attendees dressed up in Harry Potter attire. Some donned scarves with colors from the various Hogwarts houses and Harry's signature round eyeglasses.

Mayor Wayne Levante told the New Jersey Herald that the overwhelming crowd was much larger than organizers initially envisioned.

"It's just awesome to see this many people here in Newton," Levante said. "There's obviously a demand for this. ... A rising tide raises all boats, so we're going to make sure that we do this bigger and better next year because this is lightning in a bottle."

Town and local business leaders planned to meet Monday to discuss next year's event and how it could be improved, including the possibility of making it a two-day event. They planned to address concerns raised by attendees, such as a lack of parking and the need for more bathroom facilities. Some people also voiced displeasure over long waits to get in to some stores, but officials say that was mostly due to the larger than expected crowds.

AP

In this photo taken Nov. 25, 2017, rescue dogs named Molly Weasley and Arthur Weasley, owned by Diane and Jeff Swope, are dressed as Harry Potter movie characters on Spring Street during a Harry Potter-themed celebration called Diagon Alley in Newton, N.J.

Wife's private photo album makes its way onto the Web

DEAR ABBY: Six months ago, I asked a close female friend to help me prepare a gift for my husband for our fifth wedding anniversary. I wanted to create a photo album of sexy nude photos of myself. Her excellent camerawork provided me with a wonderful collection, and my husband loved it.

I recently found out on social media that my girlfriend's husband viewed and copied my private photos, and shared them online with mutual male friends of ours. I'm devastated. My girlfriend is sorry to the max.

My husband isn't yet aware of my exposure to others. I don't want to tell him, but at the same time, I don't want some guy spilling the beans. My girlfriend is helping to stop the sharing of my pictures. Should I hope for the best or tell my husband?

ASHAMED IN THE U.S.A.

DEAR ASHAMED: Inform your husband immediately about what happened because he needs to hear it from you.

Your friend's carelessness in allowing her husband to see—and share—the photos was deplorable. It is nearly impossible now that those images have been posted online to stop their proliferation. That your friend's husband would display such immaturity and poor judgment by showing them around is shocking.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I are at opposite ends of the political spectrum: I am conservative; she is liberal. We do our best not to argue about our strongly held views, but sometimes we are unsuccessful.

My problem is, she'll have three TVs going, all tuned to her favorite political channel, while doing housework. I find it annoying. I usually leave the room when she's going to do prolonged work in our home office and informs me that she will be listening to her channel. It's the three-TV thing that I would like stopped. What do you suggest?

INUNDATED IN WASHINGTON

DEAR INUNDATED: Your wife should show you the same consideration that you show to her. In this case, she does not have to have three TVs blaring "her" channel throughout your home while she does housecleaning. She should have ONE television set on in the room she is in.

DEAR ABBY: My husband had not seen a dentist in 18 years. I come from a family of dentists, and dental health is very important to me. When I finally convinced my husband to go to the dentist because he'd broken a front tooth, he ended up needing eight extractions!

I'm happy he finally saw a dentist, but he rarely wears the bridges the dentist made for him. He looks like a jack-o'-lantern, and I'm embarrassed to be with him in public. I am having such a hard time with this that I no longer know if I can stay in this marriage.

He is a good man and a great husband and father, but his lack of teeth is almost more than I can handle. Any advice on how I can get him to wear his dentures daily?

EMBARRASSED IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

DEAR EMBARRASSED: Your husband may not be wearing the bridges the dentist made because they are uncomfortable. You may be able to convince him to wear them by encouraging him to return to the dentist who made them and have them adjusted until they fit properly.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

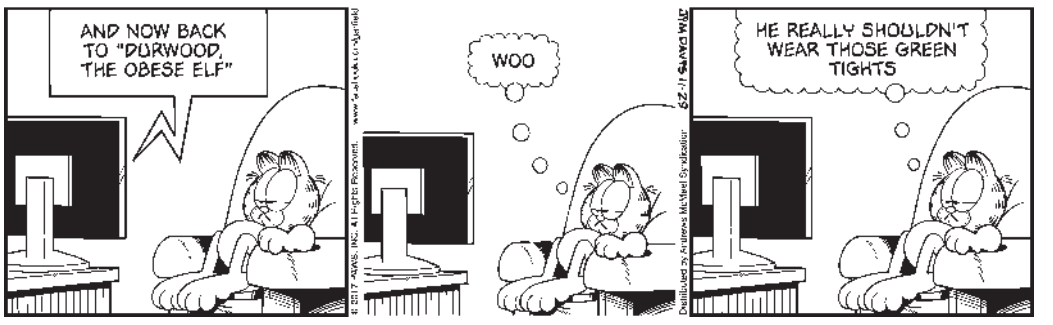
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

MMF! GGGK! IT'S NO USE. YOU'D BETTER UNTIE ME. I CAN'T ESCAPE.
LET'S SEE. THIS END GOES IN HERE, AND AROUND OVER THERE. YOU KNOW, KNOTS ARE PRETTY TRICKY.
HURRY UP.
IF I PULL ON THIS, IT SHOULD...
AAH! THAT'S TIGHTER! PULL THE OTHER WAY! THE OTHER WAY!
CALVIN, THIS IS THE LAST CHANCE FOR DINNER! GET DOWN HERE!
"SIT TIGHT," HA HA! I'LL GET YOUR CUB SCOUT MANUAL.
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS.

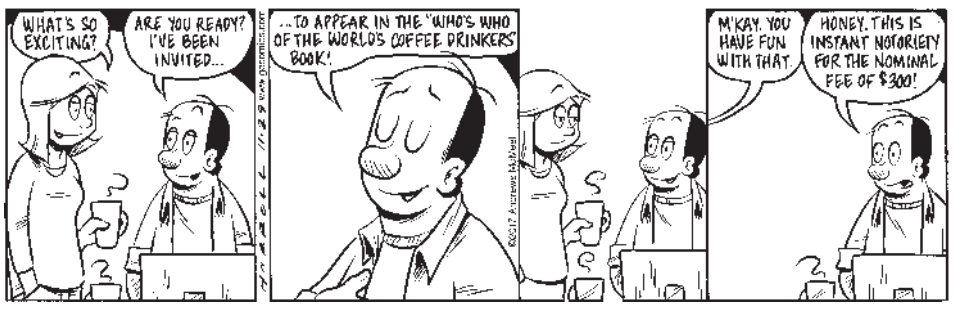
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


WHAT'S SO EXCITING?
ARE YOU READY? I'VE BEEN INVITED...
...TO APPEAR IN THE "WHO'S WHO OF THE WORLD'S COFFEE DRINKERS' BOOK!
M'KAY. YOU HAVE FUN WITH THAT.
HONEY. THIS IS INSTANT NOTORIETY FOR THE NOMINAL FEE OF $300!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

I HAD A GREAT TIME, DORIS. I HOPE TO SEE YOU AGAIN.
BUT BEFORE I GO, I'D LIKE TO...
IF YOU'RE GOING TO KISS THE MIRROR, I'D LIKE TO LEAVE THE ROOM FIRST.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Genuine
5 Police officer
8 Taj Mahal city
12 "— girl!"
13 That girl
14 Equipment
15 Stick out
17 Approximately
18 Tank type
19 Group of five
21 Wapiti
22 Swizzle
23 Lawyers' gp.
26 "Evil Woman" band
28 Sky blue
31 "Dragnet" org.
33 Inventor Whitney
35 Paradise
36 In a while
38 German river
40 Newt
41 Actress Fisher
43 Photo, for short
45 Manet or Monet
47 Noah's landfall
51 Tart
52 Seclusion
54 Shoppe description
55 Ram's mate
56 Black, in verse
57 Bank charges
58 Moreover
59 Take five

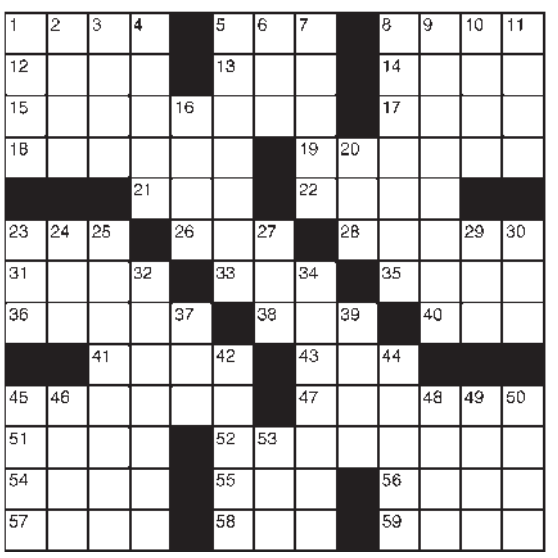
DOWN

1 Knocks
2 French 101 verb
3 Perched on
4 Starbucks offering
5 Laugh a little
6 British ref. work
7 Gets ready, briefly
8 Fret (over)
9 "Hamlet" role
10 Tabula —
11 Yankee nickname
16 Anger
20 JFK info
23 The whole enchilada
24 Sheepish remark
25 Inherent ability
27 Flamenco cheer
29 Ump
30 Tolkien creature
32 Wants
34 Skewered
37 "Kidnapped" monogram
39 Voice in an iPhone
42 Cruising
44 Provide food for
45 Starting
46 Actor's quest
48 Hayseed
49 Big fusses
50 Camper's shelter
53 Possess

Solution time: 23 mins.

C	U	R	D	■	S	P	Y	■	H	U	L	A
O	R	E	O	■	T	O	E	■	I	G	O	R
H	I	G	H	B	R	O	W	■	G	L	A	M
O	S	S	■	O	L	R	■	W	H	I	M	S
■	■	■	H	U	M	■	P	A	C	■	■	■
A	W	A	I	T	■	N	I	G	H	T	L	Y
S	O	N	G	■	Z	E	N	■	A	S	E	A
H	O	T	H	E	A	D	■	T	I	P	S	Y
■	■	■	H	A	G	■	O	E	R	■	■	■
T	W	E	E	T	■	A	P	E	■	M	A	C
H	I	D	E	■	F	■	G	H	B	A	L	L
E	L	A	L	■	A	D	A	■	O	T	T	O
E	L	M	S	■	M	A	N	■	P	E	O	N

Yesterday's answer 11-29



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Anna Faris, 41; Don Cheadle, 53; Andrew McCarthy, 55; Howie Mandel, 62.

Happy Birthday: Give less time and thought to what outsiders think or do and more to those you live with. Positive changes will transpire if you work closely with those in agreement with your plans. Step up and take a leadership position and you will be able to rally the type of help you need to reach your goals. Your numbers are 9, 13, 23, 31, 38, 46, 48.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* You'll be eager to resolve issues that arise. Before making a move, question your motives. It's important to make choices based on knowledge and experience instead of assumptions. Offer passion and desire, not frustration and anger. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Don't let your emotions distract you from taking care of your responsibilities. Anger may fester, but letting it take over will make you look bad in front of your peers. Stick to facts and remain calm. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Change the way you handle your money and your relationships. You have plenty to gain if you form a partnership with someone who has as much to offer as you. Love and romance are encouraged and will enliven your personal life. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Someone will confuse you by making unpredictable moves. Listen carefully and ask questions if you feel uncertain about what's expected of you. Partnerships will be difficult if you don't take responsibility for your actions. ✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* An unexpected change to where or how you live will turn out surprisingly well. Let your intelligence be your barometer when dealing with unpredictable people. You stand to gain from someone else's lack of knowledge. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Home improvements and making changes to your personal finances, contracts or medical issues should be your priority. An unexpected change will influence how you live. Don't pass up an opportunity because of someone else's interference. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Nurture important relationships. Do your best to keep the peace and offer sound advice. Your ability to see things clearly will give you an edge when dealing with people who may try to undermine you. Strive to make positive changes. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Stay focused on work responsibilities or changing your vocation. Set up interviews and meetings or update your resume. Opportunity will present itself if you offer the skills you enjoy using the most. Look for unique ways to present what you have to offer. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Let your emotions guide you in a direction that will satisfy both personal and professional goals. Consider what it will take to advance, and do your best to implement the changes necessary to put your plans into motion. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* It's best to avoid any sort of dispute. Listen to complaints, but don't get into an argument if you don't have to. Concentrate on what you know you can do to improve your life and your position. ✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Call in favors. Don't let a personal matter interfere with your success. Put more thought into ways you can lower your overhead and make your money stretch further. Make alterations at home that will result in greater efficiency. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Don't let the changes going on around you cause confusion. Ask questions and gather facts while you continue to take care of your responsibilities. If you do a good job, it will lead to greater opportunity and security. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are entertaining, debonair and thoughtful. You are courageous and popular.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		1		2		3		
	7		1		9		4	
	2						6	
		6	2	7	5	1		
			9		1			
			8		6			
	8	2				4	9	
6								5
	4	9	7	1	2	8	3	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/29

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

1	8	5	7	6	9	4	3	2
9	4	6	3	2	8	5	1	7
3	7	2	5	1	4	9	6	8
6	5	3	4	7	2	1	8	9
7	9	1	8	3	5	6	2	4
8	2	4	6	9	1	3	7	5
5	6	7	9	8	3	2	4	1
4	1	8	2	5	6	7	9	3
2	3	9	1	4	7	8	5	6

Difficulty Level ★★ 11/28

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

MCLAREN — AUTOMAKER & MOTORSPORTS ICON Sol.: 10 letters

S	C	U	S	T	O	M	I	Z	E	L	X	A	D	M
M	R	E	V	L	I	S	C	H	A	R	G	E	F	O
I	E	A	U	L	S	T	E	R	E	R	E	T	M	N
R	C	R	C	P	O	B	L	U	E	P	R	R	O	O
O	N	A	I	Z	A	R	G	Y	S	A	U	P	N	C
W	E	D	B	D	B	R	U	C	E	C	E	O	O	E
L	E	U	U	L	I	R	E	H	T	A	E	L	C	L
R	O	I	Q	A	E	A	T	P	R	B	S	P	A	L
E	R	R	G	R	L	F	N	L	I	I	U	P	G	N
T	A	G	T	H	O	C	R	I	M	N	U	H	E	O
T	N	U	R	E	T	T	L	A	T	K	I	W	I	I
I	G	T	T	I	P	L	A	U	C	S	P	O	R	T
L	E	A	R	E	P	U	S	I	T	I	U	O	N	I
P	T	E	R	E	T	U	P	M	O	C	N	A	N	D
S	S	S	A	T	E	L	L	I	T	E	H	G	E	E

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Yesterday's Answer: Eruption

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CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB18-CAO-012

SUBMISSION DATE: DECEMBER 15, 2017 TIME: 10:30 A.M.

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THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ JOHN I. TAGABUEL
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB18-DLNR/DFW-025

SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: DECEMBER 22, 2017 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"BOAT CHARTER TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES, DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE"

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/S/ ANTHONY T. BENAVENTE
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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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United States of America

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Find today's solution in classified section

LeBron scores 30 points in Cavs rout of 76ers

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — LeBron James showed the up-and-coming Philadelphia 76ers just how high the bar is to compete with the Eastern Conference's best.

James had 30 points, 13 rebounds and six assists to lead the Cleveland Cavaliers over the 76ers 113-91 on Monday night.

The three-time defending conference champions won their eighth straight game. Dwyane Wade scored 15 points, and Jeff Green had 14 points and 10 rebounds.

"These guys are starting to turn the corner here," James said. "They have some great wins this year. We had to come in with the mindset that this isn't the Sixers of three years ago, four years ago. They're starting to turn the corner and you have to be locked in from the onset."

James sure was.

He scored the first nine points on his way to 22 in the first half, helping Cleveland to a 53-45 lead by draining a 3 in front of Cleveland's bench at the first-half buzzer.

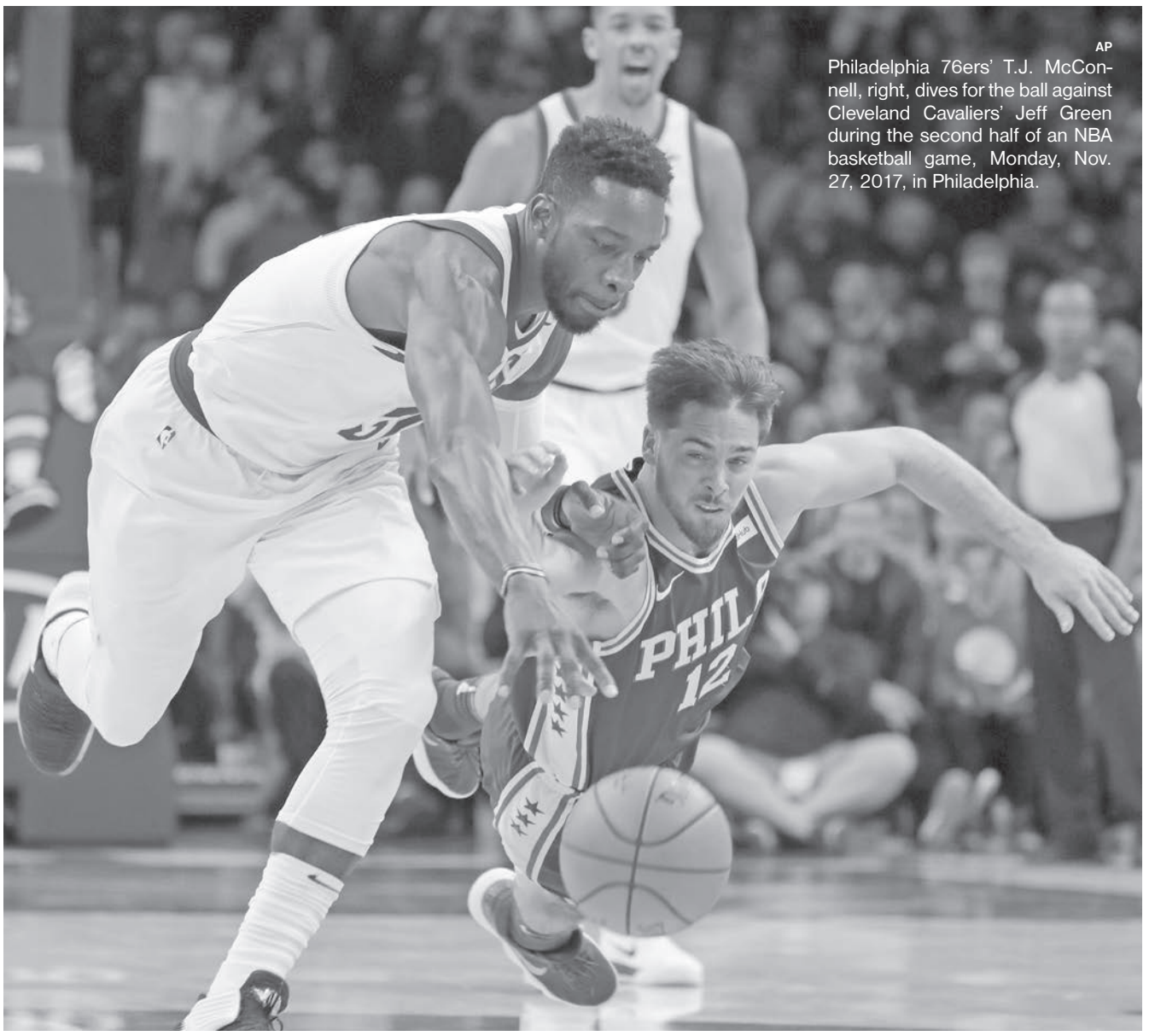
"He got us off to a good start, making the shots, being aggressive, attacking the basket and everyone kind of followed," Cavaliers coach Tyronn Lue said. "We knew they were a good team, they've been playing well, playing hard. We knew it was going to be a tough place to play. I didn't expect this outcome, but we played well tonight."

Lue tried to downplay any significance of Cleveland beating a team on the rise.

"We're just trying to get better each day, each game," he said. "We're finally figuring out who we are. We're getting better defensively, and offensively we're sharing the ball. We want to keep getting better."

Joel Embiid had 30 points and 11 rebounds to pace the 76ers, who had won three straight and five of six.

"We didn't make shots, we weren't aggressive defensively, and they got what they wanted," Embiid said. "I hate losing, but I think that's actually good we got our (butt) kicked, so we can go back, learn and know that we can't take any days off."



AP

Philadelphia 76ers' T.J. McConnell, right, dives for the ball against Cleveland Cavaliers' Jeff Green during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Monday, Nov. 27, 2017, in Philadelphia.

Kings 110, Warriors 106

In Oakland, Bogdan Bogdanovic made a go-ahead bank shot with 12.6 seconds left, lifting the Sacramento Kings over the Golden State Warriors 110-106 on Monday night with Stephen Curry and Kevin Durant injured and sitting out.

The Kings ended an eight-game skid at Golden State. The Warriors' Klay Thompson missed a 3-point try from atop the arc with 3.5 seconds left, his fourth straight miss, and Golden State went 0 for 7 from the floor after Thompson's 3 with 3:11 left.

Thompson finished with 21 points on 7-for-20 shooting with five 3s. Second-year guard Patrick McCaw took Curry's place in the starting lineup and scored a season-best 16 points with career highs of seven assists and four steals.

Willie Cauley-Stein scored 19 points to lead six Kings in double figures and also had eight rebounds and six assists. George Hill had 16 points and Sacramento led 83-82 heading into the fourth.

Key Warriors backup Andre Iguodala, who was available with a sore left knee after beginning the day listed as doubtful, scored in double figures for a third straight game with 11 points.

Curry has a bruised right hand and NBA Finals MVP Durant missed his fourth game in the last five because of a sprained left ankle. He played in a loss to the Thunder last Wednesday at his old Oklahoma City stomping grounds, though coach Steve Kerr said afterward KD should have sat out that one, too.

Pistons 118, Celtics 108

In Boston, Andre Drummond scored 26 points with 22 rebounds—both season highs—and Tobias Harris scored 31 to lead the Detroit Pistons to a 118-108 victory on Monday night and send the Celtics to their first loss in Boston since their home opener.

Drummond had 10 rebounds in the first quarter and 11 points in the last 5:36 to help Detroit win the matchup of old-school rivals who are once again the top teams in the Eastern Conference. Reggie Jackson scored 20 points with seven assists for the Pistons, who have won three of their last four.

Marcus Smart scored 23 points, making 6 of 9 from 3-point range, and Kyrie Irving had 18 with nine assists for the Celtics. Boston has lost two of four since a 16-game winning streak.

Detroit led by 11 points in the first quarter, but it was tied 100-all with 5:36 left before the Pistons pulled away thanks to eight straight points from Drummond. With just over three minutes left, the Pistons center stole a lazy inbound pass at midcourt and drove for the dunk, drawing a foul from Irving.

Trail Blazers 103, Knicks 91

In New York, Damian Lillard scored 32 points and Portland wrapped up a strong five-game road trip with its third straight victory.

Pat Connaughton added 17 for the Trail Blazers, who also won at Memphis, Brooklyn and Washington while losing only in Philadelphia. They needed to come from 17 down in the fourth quarter to beat the Wizards last time out but were in charge of this one most of the way.

Kristaps Porzingis returned from a one-game absence and scored 22 points, but the Knicks were without starting center Enes Kanter for a third straight game because of back spasms. They lost all three, falling back to .500 at 10-10.

Spurs 115, Mavericks 108

In San Antonio, LaMarcus Aldridge had a season-high 33 points and 10 rebounds and San Antonio celebrated Tony Parker's first game of the season by beating Dallas.

Parker had six points and four assists in 14 minutes in his first appearance since tearing his right quadriceps tendon May 3 against Houston in Game 2 of the Western Conference semifinals.

The injury required surgery and led some to speculate Parker could miss significant time, if he came back at all. Instead, the 35-year-old returned quicker than expected to what he calls the "game I love."

Dennis Smith Jr. and Wesley Matthews each had 19 points to lead the Mavericks, who had won two straight.

Rockets 117, Nets 103

In Houston, James Harden scored 20 of his 37 points in the first quarter to lead Houston over Brooklyn.

Harden added 10 rebounds and eight assists to guide the Rockets to their fifth straight win. When he took a break with 1:28 remaining in the first quarter, he was outscoring the Nets 20-17 by himself, not to mention four assists at that point. He was 5-for-5 from 3-point range in the first quarter and finished 8-for-13.

Clint Capela added 20 points for Houston, and Chris Paul had a season-high 14 assists on his bobblehead night.

Pacers 121, Magic 109

In Indianapolis, Victor Oladipo scored 26 points and Bojan Bogdanovic added 22 to help Indiana hand Orlando its ninth straight loss.

Orlando cut the Pacers lead to 95-91 five minutes into the fourth quarter, but Indiana put together a 13-0 run that lasted nearly three minutes. The Pacers' fourth quarter surge ultimately proved the difference in a game where the Magic fought desperately to snap their losing streak.

The Pacers had five players in double figures as Domantas Sabonis scored 19 points while Myles Turner and Lance Stephenson each added 18.

Clippers 120, Lakers 115

In Los Angeles, Lou Williams scored a season-high 42 points and the Los Angeles Clippers rallied in the fourth quarter to beat the Lakers on Monday night for their 11th straight home victory against their Staples Center co-tenant.

Blake Griffin added 26 points and 11 rebounds for the Clippers, who came back after trailing by eight to win their third in a row for the first time since opening the season 4-0.

Griffin wasn't on the court at the end. He went for a loose ball under the basket and fell, grabbing his left knee as he went down in the closing minutes.

Grizzlies fire Fizdale a day after benching Gasol

The Memphis Grizzlies fired coach David Fizdale on Monday, with the team at 7-12 and a day after he benched center Marc Gasol for the fourth quarter of an eighth straight loss.

General manager Chris Wallace announced the move. Associate head coach J.B. Bickerstaff has been named interim coach.

"After a thorough evaluation, I decided a change in course was necessary to move forward and provide the team and organization its best chance at success this season and beyond," Wallace said in a statement.

Gasol, given a maximum deal by the Grizzlies in July 2015, sat throughout the fourth quarter of a 98-88 loss to the Brooklyn Nets on Sunday. Gasol leads the Grizzlies in points, rebounds and assists, and he was an All-Star in Fizdale's inaugural season. But the center spent plenty of time after the game making it clear to reporters how upset he was at sitting out a full quarter.

"It's a first for me, trust me, and I don't like it one bit," Gasol said. "I'm more (ticked) than I can show and frustrated."

Fizdale explained his decision before Gasol spoke in the locker room and said he simply was trying to win a game while sticking with his reserves. Fizdale said taking a risk as head coach means sometimes upsetting a player or two.

"If I'm not on the floor, I'm not valued," Gasol said. "I'm sure (the coaching staff) knew that would hurt me the most."

The move caught the NBA by surprise. Dwyane Wade, who played with the Miami Heat when Fizdale was an assistant coach, wrote on Twitter that he needed answers. LeBron James retweeted a comment that called the move "stunning. ***(AP)***

Ravens get defensive in victory over Texans

AP
Baltimore Ravens inside linebacker C.J. Mosley, left, tackles Houston Texans tight end C.J. Fiedorowicz in the second half of an NFL football game, Monday, Nov. 27, 2017, in Baltimore. Baltimore won, 23-16.

BALTIMORE (AP)—Take the ball away from the other guys, hold onto it yourself and make sure nothing happens to Justin Tucker.

That, apparently, is the formula the Baltimore Ravens intend to use to reach the playoffs.

Terrell Suggs led an aggressive defense that kept Houston out of the end zone for the final 51 minutes, and the Ravens forced two turnovers in the final 5 minutes to secure a 23-16 victory on Monday night.

"If the game's on the line, you've got to be comfortable when your defense is out there," Suggs said. "It feels good."

After Suggs stripped the ball from quarterback Tom Savage and Baltimore recovered, Tucker kicked his third field goal with 2:53 remaining for a seven-point cushion.

Anthony Levine then intercepted a Savage pass to clinch it.

The Ravens picked off two passes to increase their NFL-leading total to 18, and their three takeaways upped their league-best total to 26.

Asked to assess Savage's performance, Houston coach Bill O'Brien said: "Can't turn it over. I thought he did some good things, but he turned it over too many times."

Baltimore, in turn, did not commit a turnover.

Suggs had two sacks, Alex Collins ran for 60 yards and a touchdown, and punter Sam Koch threw perhaps Baltimore's most significant pass of the game.

Baltimore coach John Harbaugh called for a fake punt, converted a fourth down with a rarely used pitchout and had quarterback Joe Flacco line up at wide receiver on a play in which Collins took a direct snap.

"You always have them in the game plan," Flacco said. "It's just the flow of the game."

All of this added spice to a stagnant offense that protected the ball and did just enough to win.

Flacco went 20 for 32 for 141 yards.

The Ravens (6-5) have won consecutive games for the first time since they opened the season 2-0. They are now above .500 for the first time since Oct. 8 and tied with Buffalo for the final AFC wild-card spot.

Houston (4-7) has lost four of five.

Savage, who has started the last four games in place of injured DeShaun Watson, completed 22 of 37 passes for 252 yards. But he gave the ball away three times, and that was the difference.

"You're not going to win any games when you turn it over and you don't get any turnovers," O'Brien said.

Aided by three penalties against Baltimore, the Texans traveled the length of the field and went up 7-0 on a 4-yard touchdown run by Lamar Miller.

That would be Houston's last sniff of the end zone.

"It's hard to run the ball on these guys," O'Brien said. "You try to stay balanced and we couldn't really run it."

Early in the second quarter, after a third-down incompletion, the Ravens appeared poised to punt for the fourth time in four series. But Koch lofted a pass to Chris Moore , a play that went for 22 yards to the Houston 19. That set up a 10-yard touchdown run by Javorius Allen, who reached the end zone with a healthy push from several of his teammates.

An interception by Tony Jefferson was followed by a fourth-and-1 gamble in which Collins took a quick pitch and ran for 29 yards to the Houston 8. Collins covered the final 8 yards on the following play for a 14-7 lead.

The teams traded field goals in the final two minutes before halftime.

Suggs joked about how former Ravens linebacker Ray Lewis loved pouncing on loose balls.

"Every time I'm ready to get the ball, I can hear Ray Lewis say, `Sizzle, get the ball. I want the ball," Suggs said. "Ray Lewis, he probably made a tackle tonight. He's always gotten credit."

Baltimore has won 10 straight games in prime time and is 12-1 under the lights since Harbaugh took over in 2008.

Astros players set World Series share record at $438,902

NEW YORK (AP)—The value of a full postseason share on the World Series champion Houston Astros was worth a record $438,902 this year.

The previous mark was $388,606 for the 2014 San Francisco Giants. A full share declined to $370,069 for the 2015 Kansas City Royals and $368,872 for the 2016 Chicago Cubs.

Major League Baseball said Monday the players' pool was a record $84.5 million, up from $76.6 million last year and $69.9 million in 2015.

Houston split $30.4 million into 60 full shares, 9.23 partial shares and four cash awards. Last year's Cubs had 66 full shares, 8.7 partial shares and four cash awards.

A full share on the Los Angeles Dodgers, who lost the Series in seven games, was worth $259,722. That was down from $261,805 for last year's Cleveland Indians and $300,758 for the 2015 New York Mets, a record for a World Series loser.

Full shares were worth $138,898 for the New York Yankees, $133,159 for the Cubs, $40,977 for Arizona, $36,869 for Washington, $36,783 for Cleveland, $36,438 for Boston, $18,990 for Minnesota and $18,879 for Colorado.

The players' pool included 50 percent of the gate receipts from the two wild-card games, and 60 percent from the first three games of each division series and the first four games of each league championship series and the World Series.

Woods getting strong reviews in return to golf

NASSAU, Bahamas (AP)—All eyes are on Tiger Woods and his return to golf, even the players he has to beat.

Especially the players.

Woods was on the back end of the practice range Monday at Albany Golf Club, hitting balls with Patrick Reed, when he looked up at a drone buzzing some 50 feet over him in the cloudy sky. He had no idea that Daniel Berger was at the controls.

Berger was on the front of the range, blocked by a row of bushes in the sand dunes. As the drone's camera zoomed in, Dustin Johnson, Matt Kuchar, Kevin Kisner and their caddies crowded around Berger to look.

They cared more about his reaction to the drone than his swing.

But they are curious about his game.

And those who have played with Woods in recent weeks believe there is reason for the hype.

"People are going to be shocked at how good his game looks," PGA champion Justin Thomas said.

Thomas will have the best seat in the house Thursday when Woods, who had fusion surgery on his lower back in April, plays for the first time in 10 months at the Hero World Challenge. Thomas, named the PGA Tour player of the year after winning five times and the FedEx Cup, is paired with him in the first round.

Thomas spends a fair bit of time with Woods at their Florida homes, and they played a few weeks ago.

The attention on Woods increased in recent days as more players joined him for casual rounds. Brad Faxon caused a stir when he played with Woods, Johnson and President Donald Trump on Friday.

"Tiger looked great to me," Faxon wrote in a story for Golfweek . "I was impressed with how far he hit the ball. Probably on the 10 holes that they were both hitting driver, Tiger hit it past Dustin half the time and Dustin hit it past Tiger half the time. He looked great. I think more than anything, he looked at ease. He was not concerned about swinging hard and going at it with driver. The ball flight, the sound off the club, all of it was right there."

Johnson is among the elite power players in the game. True story?

Johnson smiled.

"He hit it by me a couple of times," Johnson said. "Did I bomb one and he hit it past me? No. But he did it past me a few times. He was moving it, though."

All this hype in the chill environment of the Bahamas should sound familiar. It was only last year when Woods returned after 15 months away from the game. He had gone through three back surgeries at that point, the first one right before the 2014 Masters, and Woods looked relatively normal, with freedom in his swing. He made 24 birdies, along with enough mistakes that he finished 14 shots out of the lead, in 15th place among an 18-man field.

Woods missed the cut at Torrey Pines two months later, flew to Dubai and managed one round—a 77 in calm conditions—before withdrawing with back spasms.

What appears to be different this time, at least from those who have played with him, is the absence of pain.

Patrick Reed played nine holes of practice with him Monday morning. He saw Woods do whatever he wanted with his swing and saw an assortment of shots—a stinger off the tee, a low draw, a high cut.

"He seemed to have command of not only the golf club, but his body," Reed said.

It was the first time Reed had played with Woods since the opening round of the Hero World Challenge last year. The difference Reed noticed was that Woods looked more free and fluid in going after any shot.

"It looked like there was a little hesitation the last time I played with him," Reed said. "This time, he was fully committed and fully trusted in his body. There was no pain. That's the biggest thing for me. If he stays healthy, then he'll be back playing golf, hopefully like he used to. I want to see it and I want to compete against it."

Johnson said Friday's round with Woods and the president was a big change from when the two played the opening two rounds at Torrey Pines together in January, when both missed the cut.

"His speed was back. He played a lot better than he did in San Diego, for sure," Johnson said. "He's healthy. To me, he looks strong. He's swinging with speed instead of in San Diego. When I played with him there, he wasn't swinging at it. You could tell he was hurt."

Japanese pro to challenge HK Olympian in 'Hell'

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Japanese pro rider Yasue Nakahara will be the biggest threat to Hong Kong's Jamie Wong in the 11th Hell of the Marianas Century Cycling Race that will hit the road this Saturday.

Nakahara and Wong are expected to go head-to-head for the women's title after five-time champion Mieko Carey and Manami Iijima decided to skip this year's edition of the 115-kilometer race around Saipan.

Carey won't be defending her title as she suffered an injury while training. Iijima, on the other hand, is still recovering after competing in last Sunday's Ironman 70.3 Triathlon in Phuket, Thailand. Both are representing Guam with Carey used to don the CNMI colors.

Nakahara and Wong are both 31 years old, but the latter has the advantage, experience-wise, as she is a two-time Olympian—2008 Beijing and 2012 London—and competed in several international tournaments. Chau Yu Ng, also from Hong Kong, completes the women's pro/elite field.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Japan's Yasue Nakahara, seen here racing in the 2017 Japan National Championships in Hasikami, Aomori Prefecture, will be competing in this Saturday's Hell of Marianas.

Nakahara, who usually races in Europe, is a member of the Maaslandster International Women's Cycling Team in the Netherlands. The Japanese pro, according to her profile, has great climbing skills that would be useful in the hill stages of the HOM, especially going up the Bird Island Lookout and Suicide Cliff. She placed fifth in the Japan National Championships held last June 24 in Hasikami, Aomori Prefecture.

Nakahara's foe, Wong, has an impressive credential after winning the gold medal in the 2007 UCI Track Cycling World Cup in Copenhagen, Denmark and silver in the Asian Cycling Championships in Nakhon Ratchasima in Thailand.

The Hong Kong rider is also a silver medalist in the 2010 Asian Games and settled for the bronze in the 2014 edition of the competition in Incheon, South Korea. Wong earned the No. 1 world ranking in the 2013 Track Points Race, placed 15th in the World Cup the same year, and won the gold medal in a race in Manchester in 2013. She is also a four-time bronze medalist (2011 to 2014) in the Sliver Asia Championship.

Interscholastic Soccer League kicks off tomorrow

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 2017 Fall U11 Interscholastic Soccer League will open tomorrow at the various school fields with 11 teams participating in this year's competition for elementary division.

Six teams, led by defending champion Mt. Carmel School, will fight for the boys championship. The Knights took last season's title after outclassing Brilliant Star School/Whispering Palms School in a shootout, 2-0. Out to deny the Knights' bid for back-to-back crown this season are Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School, Koblerville Elementary School, Kagman Elementary School, William S. Reyes Elementary School, and Garapan Elementary School.

Garapan will challenge Mt. Carmel in one of the opening games tomorrow at the former's turf at 3:45pm. The two other matches in the opener will have GTC hosting WSR at 4:45pm and Kagman going to Koblerville to challenge the Umangs, also in a 4:45pm tiff.

Each match will be played in an 8 vs 8 format (game can still be played provided a team has at least five players) and in two 20-minute halves with a five-minute break. The league will follow a single-round robin play in the elimination and the Top 4 team will advance to the playoffs. The No. 1 and 4 ranked squads will collide in the semis set for Dec. 19 at the Hopwood Middle School Field, while the No. 2 and 3 teams will duel in the other Final Four pairing. The finals is scheduled for Dec. 21, also at the Hopwood pitch.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mt. Carmel School's Ruben Guerrero, center, goes up against two Whispering Palms School/Brilliant Star School defenders during their title game in last year's U11 Interscholastic Soccer League at the Hopwood Middle School Field.

In the girls division, WSR is back to defend its title and will be up against Kagman, Koblerville, Mt. Carmel, and GTC. WSR won its third championship last year after edging Brilliant Star/Whispering Palms in a shootout, 2-1.

The three-time champion will start its title defense against GTC tomorrow at 3:45pm at the latter's field. Then over at the Koblerville pitch, it will be the Umangs versus Kagman. Mt. Carmel drew a bye in the opening day and will have its first game on Dec. 5 opposite GTC at the Hopwood pitch.

The girls division has the same format as the boys' both in the elimination and playoffs. The semis and finals matches will also take place on Dec. 19 and 21.

NMI

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Hall 2.

Dan Barcinas, Preston Basa, Jack Lizama, and Douglas Schmidt will be representing Team CNMI in the Mini Games after winning the Mariana Islands Basketball Federation 3x3 Hoopfest last month with Elias Rangamar acting as team manager and coach.

Rangamar, who is also a Mariana Islands Basketball Federation official, said it is a bit hard to scout some of the competing teams in 3x3 basketball since not all have videos that can be searched online.

"It's hard to find any games of some of the teams. Most of the time, you're search would end up with nothing. Guam will still be the team to beat, but you can't rule out Fiji and Samoa. These three are powerhouse teams and the countries to beat," said Rangamar.

"I've heard that Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands also have good teams. We'll see a clearer picture when we get there and check the final schedule," he added.

American Samoa, New Caledonia, and Papua New Guinea complete the participants list. Nine-time Pacific Games basketball gold medalist Tahiti won't be competing after the Pacific Games Council suspended them due to their leadership crisis.

Rangamar said they would just use any advantage they have against the other teams.

"We're trying to use our quickness and shooting to our advantage. These guys are known shooters, so they are free to shoot whenever one of them is open," he said. "Also, we need to get those rebounds so we could create scoring situations. The games in 3x3 are quick, so you need to have good shooters. We need to make those outside shots, to open up the middle."

He added that they are hoping to get past the elimination and enter the medal rounds. "Anything can happen from there. It all depends on the grouping but for sure, this is a good experience for them since 3x3 is new."

The Pacific Games Council has included 3x3 basketball to its calendar after the International Olympic Committee added the sport to its program. The Vanuatu Games will be the first to host the competition both in the men's and women's divisions. The IOC executive board decided to include 3x3 basketball as an Olympic sport last June 9 this year and it will be played in the 2020 Summer Games in Tokyo. The sport has long been part of the Youth Olympic Games since the first edition in Singapore in 2010 with Serbia winning the boys gold after a 22-9 victory over Croatia in the finals and China defeating Australia, 33-29, to rule the girls division.

MINI

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been training hard to prepare for the Mini Games and they are hoping to establish personal best times in Vanuatu.

"We're going to use this as a warm-up for next year's [MAC] and the Micro Games. Beo and Zari are trying to keep their momentum going. The Mini Games in Vanuatu is an excellent event for them to see their progress," said Rangamar.

"For Jamie, it is only for experience. At least she could get a feel of the high level competition. She's still young, and needs exposure and more training," he added.

Sapong, after the Mini Games, is expected to compete in the 2018 International Association of Athletics Federations World Indoor Championships from March 1 to 4. Birmingham City in England will host the World Indoors.

"Zari has been consistent with her performances. She's using all of these [Mini Games and World Indoors] in time for the MAC in June and the July Micro Games. "She wants to do good with her personal best times that's why she's working very hard," said Rangamar.

Sapong is the reigning MAC women's 100 meter and 200m run champion with times of 13.35 and 27.87 seconds, respectively, with the latter a championship record. She also won a silver medal in the 400m run at 1:08.80, and led the NMI women's team to bronze medal finishes in the 4x100 and 4x400m relay races in last year's MAC in Pohnpei.

TOP-RANKED

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losing to Steele, played in the battle for third place, and bowed to Kang, 1-8.

Meanwhile, in the boys U18 doubles, Sean Lee and Woo teamed up and were unbeaten in two games to bag the division championship.

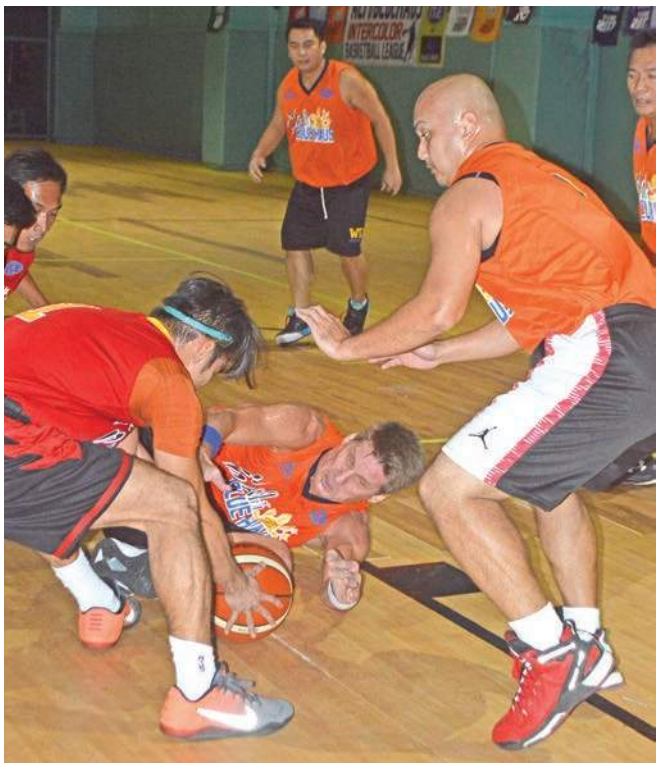
The winning duo first shut down Jamin Elliot and Jeffrey Seo last Saturday, 6-0, 6-0, and then outlasted Tony Kim and Song in last Sunday's deciding match, 7-6 (2), 2-6, 10-4. Kim and Song ended up getting the second place honors as they earlier downed Elliot and Seo, 6-1, 6-1.

In the boys U12 doubles, Anthony Gregoire and David Kwon won over siblings Jacob and Jonny Jackson in an extended finale, 6-4, 2-6, 10-8.

2nd Ali"i Blue Haus Invitational Basketball League

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The Green Archers' Frank Ferrer, center, slips past the defense of the Silencer's Angelo Fernando, left, for an open layup during their regular season game in the 2nd Ali'i Blue Haus Invitational Basketball League at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.



Tropang Ridhors' Ken Viray, third left, battles Spigen's Bruce Berline for the loose ball, while their teammates stay close to the play.

Batang Bear Brand's Hal Spott, right, dribbles toward the defense of Tropang Ridhors' Junar Guiab.

Spigen's Adrian Flores, left, blocks the shot of Tropang Ridhors' Ken Viray.

Black Mamba's Yosh Gabaldon, left, and Tropang Ridhors' Junar Guiab jockey for position in the rebound play.

White Haus' Nate Mateo, left, fails to control the ball after the rebound play, while the Silencer's Kelvin Fitial, center, attempts to steal it.

Vendetta's Dexter Tenorio, right, pulls up for a jumper against Spigen's Gani Cortez.

Team Sawi's J.R. Concepcion, right, intercepts a pass intended to Empe Light's Olan Tengco.

LeBron scores 30 points in Cavs rout of 76ers

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Ravens get defensive in victory over Texans

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Top-ranked players deliver

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Robbie Schorr returns a shot to Ken Song during their boys U18 singles title match in the 9th Annual TanHoldings Tennis Classic last Sunday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan courts.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Robbie Schorr and Seung Jin Paik lived up to high expectations after ruling their respective divisions in the 9th Annual TanHoldings Tennis Classic.

Schorr, the No. 1 seed player in the boys U18 singles, reigned supreme in the six-player field after beating No. 2 Ken Song in their title match, 6-2, 6-3, last Sunday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan courts.

A similar straight set victory over Ji Min Woo in the semifinals, 6-2, 6-2, allowed Schorr to advance to the finale. Woo, before bowing to Schorr, dominated Allan Lee, 6-0, 6-2, to make it to the Final Four. Song also needed only two sets to make it to finals, as he eased past Sean Lee at the lower half of the draw, 6-3, 6-1. Sean Lee moved into the semis after eliminating Sam Ryu, 6-1, 6-4.

In the boys U14 singles, Paik prevailed in the title showdown between the Top 2 seeds in the division as he topped Richard Steele, 6-4, 6-0.

The No. 1 seed Paik did not lose a single set on his way to clinching the division championship. He got a bye in the opening round and then defeated Hyun Min Cho, 6-0, 6-0, and Daniel Kang, 6-3, 6-2, to earn the finals berth at the top half of the draw. Cho set up a quarterfinal duel against Paik after posting a 6-1, 6-0 win over Joey Hong, while Kang gained a semis entry following his 6-3, 6-1 triumph over Isaac Heo—a 6-40, 7-6 (5) winner versus Seung Won Lee.

At the bottom half of the draw, Steele also swept his first two opponents to arrange a finals faceoff against Paik. The No. 2 seed won over Danny Lee, 6-1, 6-0, and No. 3 Andy Kim, 6-2, 6-3. Lee came from a 6-4, 2-6, 10-2 victory against Andrew Chung to advance against Steele, while Kim eliminated Eu Bin Park, 6-2, 6-2, for a semis date against Steele. Park, on the other hand, barged into the quarterfinals following a 6-2, 6-0 win versus Jun Wang. Kim, after

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NMI hopes quickness enough vs Mini Games foes

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Jack Lizama, left, has nowhere to go against the baseline defense of a Tinian Alpha Males player during a Mini Games qualifying tournament at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium last month.

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI men's national 3x3 basketball team hopes its quickness and players' familiarity would be enough for the squad to get past its opponents when competition begins in the 10th Pacific Mini Games in Vanuatu.

The Mini Games will open on Dec. 4 at the Korman Stadium in Port Vila, while the 3x3 basketball competition, for both for men and women, starts on Dec. 11 and ends on Dec. 14 at the Korman Indoor

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Mini Games warm-up for track team

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The three-member CNMI national track and field team will be using the 10th Pacific Mini Games in Vanuatu as a warm-up for two other sporting events next year—the Micronesian Athletics Championships and the Micronesian Games.

Saipan will be hosting the MAC in June, while the ninth edition of the Micro Games will be held in Yap from July 15 to 27.

Veterans Beo Ngirchongor and Zarinae Sapong, and newcomer Jamie Pangelinan were chosen to don the CNMI's national colors in the Port Vila Mini Games that will kick off on Dec. 4 at the Korman Stadium.

The team will be leaving on Dec. 7—together with the CNMI men's 3x3 squad—since competitions in athletics would only start on Dec. 11 and ends on Dec. 14 at the Korman Track Stadium.

Northern Marianas Athletics development officer Elias Rangamar, who will also coach the squad along with Ron Olopai, said they have

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Zarinae Sapong, seen here competing in the world championships in London this year, is one of the three members of the CNMI track team that will participate in the Pacific Mini Games in Vanuatu next month.